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CONTADORA MINISTERS MEET IN PANAMA CITY

Tinoco Presents Proposal

PA170418 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 17 May 86

[Javier Reyes report from Panama City -- recorded]

[Text] From Panama City we are going to report for the Voice of Nicaragua on the proposal Nicaragua made tonight to expedite the discussions of the Contadora Group. The meeting ended at 2030 Managua time, 2130 Panama time, with the presentation and debate of a Nicaraguan proposal regarding arms and security matters. Nicaragua proposed to the Central American countries that they accept commitments regarding security matters; banning international military maneuvers; ending the arms race; dismantling bases, schools, and other foreign military installations; pulling out foreign advisers or security officers; banning arms trafficking; ending support for unconventional forces; abstaining from promoting and supporting acts of terrorism, subversion, and sabotage; and to end, the establishment of a regional direct communications system. Here is the Nicarguan deputy foreign minister telling reporters about the Nicaraguan proposal:

[Begin Tinoco recording, broadcast in progress] ...of Nicaragua to the [word indistinct] Contadora such as military maneuvers and levels of weapons. We have presented what we believe is a reasonable proposal, which was prepared after much reflection. We have urged the Central American countries to analyze the proposal we have presented, because we believe that it offers a possible realistic solution to all this stepped up violence in the Central American region.

I would like to point out that, in addition to the proposal, we have also presented an introductory document -- which I will also give to you -- and its final segment states: on 12 April 1986, and as new proof of the political willingness to achieve a successful conclusion of the Contadora negotiation process, Nicaragua agreed to renew the negotiations. Nicaragua also agreed that, once an agreement has been achieved on the portions of the document that are still pending -- and once the United States has fully stopped its aggression against Nicaragua -- it would sign the regional agreement.

The introductory document then states: Nicaragua wishes to participate in this new round of negotiations to conclude the matters that are still pending in the document, with the same constructive spirit that has always characterized its participation in Contadora. Therefore bearing in mind Contadora's obvious interest in seeing the agreement signed as soon as possible, Nicaragua -- with a gesture of maximum flexibility and with the intention of achieving a prompt signing of the regional document -- presents the following proposal concerning maneuvers and weapons. This is where we presented the proposal.

Before I explain the proposal in detail, I would like to make a brief introductory statement in a general way. I think I mentioned that this morning. We said this morning that regardless of what is being said, a reality prevails in Central America -- an objective political-military reality. Despite the people's and ideological viewpoints, three maneuvers are being similtaneously held in Central America. One is being held in Honduras; another one in the Panama Canal area; and approximately 180 U.S. Army engineers are currently in Costa Rica.

The maneuvers in Honduras include almost 10,000 men [corrects himself] almost 10,000 U.S. soldiers; this, in itself, is a fact. The "Terencio Sierra" maneuvers include 4,500 men; the "Cabanas-86" maneuvers include 3,000 men; and the "Tosta-86" maneuvers include 2,000 men. This is a fact.

We also have other facts: Irregular and [word indistinct] forces are operating in Central America. In Nicaragua's case, the irregular mercenary forces continue to receive the United States' support. They continue to receive the U.S. Administration's support. The U.S. Administration, meaning the Reagan administration, continues to struggle to officially give them money, while it continues to give money to the counterrevolution under the table, in a surreptitious way. However, they also want to give open, official political support to the counterrevolution. Thus, this is another objective fact.

Another objective fact is that there are serious military conflicts in other countries, particularly in El Salvador. Another objective fact is that this situation of instability and insecurity represents a threat.

Another objective fact is the matter of our dignity and security in response to all of these threats. Nicaragua has continued to organize itelf for the revolution's defense, and to organize its plans and the military reserves. Preventive measures have been adopted so that we can face this situation which is -- independently of its [word indistinct] -- an objective reality.

Meanwhile, [words indistinct] that the result of this policy of war and aggression in Central America is a large-scale discussion among the Central American countries. [Words indistinct] a greater lack of confidence exists between the United States and Nicaragua, than between the Central American countries.

It is also objective that this hope that Philip Habib could make apparently [word indistinct] statements has vanished, first because we read the decision in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES from Brasilia that Habib's statements had been misinterpreted and that in reality Reagan's political policies could be maintained were later denied [words indistinct] Larry Speakes, who said that the Reagan administration's policy will continue unchanged even if the document is signed, that aid to the contras will continue. [Passage indistinct]. They said that Habib had met with the counterrevolutionary leaders in Miami, and that they confirmed that the administration's position would not change; even if the document is signed, aid to the contras will continue. [end recording]

[Reyes] Deputy Foreign Minister Tinoco then explained the proposals, which first call for outlawing international military maneuvers. Only national military maneuvers could be carried out, and when these are carried out less than 30 km from the territory of neighboring countries, very detailed information must be provided regarding the maneuvers, and observers from bordering states must be invited.

This proposal also prohibits the realization of maneuvers by troops from any country outside the region. This means that the United States will not be able to carry out any maneuvers in Honduran territory, using only U.S. troops or using only Honduran territory. [sentence as heard]

On the arms issue, Nicaragua defended the need for Nicaragua to maintain defensive weapons in the people's hands, and to proceed to negotiate and define what offensive weapons are. The Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers' meeting is being held at the Panama Hilton Hotel, ad will continue on Saturday and Sunday, with a study of the Nicaraguan proposal as well as a Honduran proposal presented minutes after Nicaragua's proposal was made. The Nicaraguan proposal was viewed positively among diplomatic circles, as it demonstrates that Nicaragua is neither isolated nor a stubborn country blocking or complicating the Contadora process. [end recording]

Two Nations Reject Proposal

PA171800 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1718 GMT 17 May 86

[By Agustin de Gracia]

[Text] Panama City, 17B May (ACAN-EFE) -- Two Central American countries today rejected Nicaragua's proposal to begin negotiations on the area's offensive arms limits after the signing of the peace treaty that has been discussed since 1983.

Jorge Hernandez Alcero, head of the Honduran delegation participating with the other Central Americn countries in the 3-day meeting also attended by the deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia), has declared in this regard: "It is a bit like waiting for the return of Halley's Comet."

The purpose of the meeting that began yesterday in a Panama City hotel is to bring to a conclusion 3 years of negotiations and to finish the last two chapters of the Contadora act, chapters that deal with the arms race and international military maneuvers. The Honduran diplomat added: "The Nicaraguan proposal is to negotiate the arms limits after the act goes into effect."

Yesterday Nicaragua presented a document suggesting that the Central American nations negotiate limits on their "offensive," not defensive, weapons after the signing of the act. The deadline for this negotiation could be modified by the parties involved.

Before entering the meeting room, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said today: "We will start fixing limits after the signing." According to the Nicaraguan proposal, compliance with the military commitments established in the treaty "are conditioned to the cessation of policies calling for the direct or indirect use of force by extraregional staes with ties and interests in the region." This position explicitly refers to the support the United States gives anti-Sandinist groups.

Honduras, however, maintains that the limits on arms and troops must be established prior to the signing of the treaty and must be listed in the act. Hernandez Alcero also rejected the possibility of putting limits only on offensive weapons since international law does not establish any difference between offensive and defensive weapons. He noted: "This type of discussion has been going on in the UN Disarmament Commission for the past 30 years, and it has been impossible to reach an agreement on what is defensive and what is offensive."

The Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister today suggested, however, that the difference between the two concepts be established prior to the signing of the peace treaty for Central America.

The Costan Rican delegation to this meeting also rejected Nicaragua's proposal. A member of the San Jose delegation told ACAN-EFE, referring to the Nicaraguan document: "Never." A Costa Rican diplomat said that because of the conflicting positions of Nicaragua and Honduaras, Costa Rica and Guatemala plan to present another alternative "to put our feet on the ground."

The countries of the region have until 6 June to conclude the treaty. The Contadora Group has hinted that if nothing achieved by that deadline, the group, anfter 3 years and 6 months of mediation, will transfer its responsibilities to another international organization.

Honduran Delegate on Proposal

PA180332 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 May 86

[Special report by Lilia Almengor]

[Excerpts] The various Central American delegations meeting at a Panama City hotel to continue discussions on the two points crucial to the signing of the Contadora peace document have agreed not to issue any statement for the moment on the work being done at the meeting, which may be construed as a contribution to help arrive at some positive conclusion.

The Nicaraguan delegation has submitted a proposal on matters of security, armament, and military maneuvers, which is the subject of consultations among the other Central American representatives at this moment. It was also learned this morning that Honduras wishes to present a document to this meeting that contains observations on the aspects under discussion at this meeting of deputy foreign ministers.

The Honduran proposal, which has been circulated among the participants at the Contadora meeting, has not yet been released to the national press.

We will now present an interview with Honduran Foreign Minister Jose Ramon Hernandez Alcerro [title as heard], who gave explanations regarding the observations on the Nicaraguan proposal:

[Begin recording] [Hernandez] We must seek a practical, concrete solution to these types of problems, and what we have proposed is that, with utmost simplicity, the limits of armament, the limits of troop strength, be set forth in the document.

[Unidentifed reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Hernandez] In our opinion, the problem of international military maneuvers is not a true problem. It is a false problem to such a point that it has had to be said that military maneuvers are being held in order for others to learn that military maneuvers are being carried out. It is not true that three military maneuvers are being held simultaneously in Honduras as Deputy Foreign Minister Tinoco said yesterday. It is not true that there are 9,000 U.S. troops holding maneuvers in Honduras at this moment. We have reached a peak of 4,000 at times when there have been many of them and the maneuvers that are being held at this moment -- as many international media [word indistinct] in Honduras can testify -- consist of building a [word indistinct] road by the U.S. National Guard, which is [words indistinct] the reserve of that country. The construction of this road is being carried out in central Yoro Department in Honduras, the same way that roads have also been built here in Panama during the course of military maneuvers with the United States.

In fact, the Honduran Government followed Panama's example in building a road with U.S. assistance during maneuvers, whch are practically maneuvers of a civil engineering nature.

Yesterday Honduras and Costa Rical said they were prepared to stay here as long as necessary. The call to convene was issued for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday but, as you said, this is absolutely not enough time and we decided yesterday [to announce] that we are in the best disposition to stay in Panama as long as necessary to conclude the negotiations.

If we have to make consultations today regarding the proposals submitted yesterday and if we have to listen to Nicaragua's arguments -- to what it has to say -- and if we have to listen to new proposals from Contadora, we are ready to do so, so we can meet the deadline of 6 June that was set by our foreign ministers, and which has been accepted by our own foreign ministers. [end recording]

Nicaragua Rejects Alternate Plan

PA180335 Paris AFP in Spanish 0224 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Panama, 17 May (AFP) -- Sources close to a meeting between the peace-seeking group and Central American plenipotentiaries taking place here have reported that Nicaragua rejected a conciliation proposal presented today by Costa Rica and Guatemala on security issues contained in the Contadora peace document. However, the sources pointed out that the four Contadora deputy foreign ministers will reportedly present another proposal tomorrow -- on the 3d day of meetings -- to reach an agreement on the decisive issues of the arms race and military maneuvers.

The document, which was analyzed by the nine representatives today and revealed by Costa Rica at the end of the work session tonight, proposes not to ban military maneuvers, but establishes conditions to carry them out. This is one of the points previously proposed by Honduras and most ardently opposed by Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, a Nicaraguan proposal pointed out that the number of weapons must be limited in keeping with the defense needs of each country and the offensive or defensive weapons criteria, but this is not specified in the document. The Costa Ricans stressed that such a proposal contained basic criteria that was impossible to negotiate.

Meanwhile, Joaquin Maza, the Salvadoran representative, said that the Nicaraguan rejection "lack arguments" and that his country will "give all the attention deserved" to the Costa Rican-Guatemalan proposal. He pointed out : "We think that we could take it into consideration and reach a consensus."

However, other sources said that this proposal failed to conciliate positions; it is similar to the Honduran proposal. They said that the Contadora deputy foreign ministers might present a new motion tomorrow in an effort to finalize the peace document.

Meeting Ends Without Decision

PA182315 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2230 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Panama City, 18 May (DPA) -- The deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the Central American plenipotentiaries have ended their 3-day meeting without reaching a definite agreement on the peace and cooperation plan for Central America, which has been under consideration for over a year and a half.

It was learned that the Central American presidents will decide if they will sign or not sign the plan next Saturday during their meeting in Esquipulas, Guatemala.

NAVY AIRCRAFT MISSING NEAR TIERRA DEL FUEGO

PY162140 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1915 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Ushuaia, 16 May (NA) -- It has been officially reported here that a naval aircraft with a seven-man crew, which last night lost contact with the local control tower, is still missing this afternoon after a 15-hour search in high seas. The airplane disappeared while participating in a night naval exercise some 126 nautical miles northeast of Pena Cape, Isla Grande, Tierra del Fuego. The Southern Naval Area, headquartered in Ushuaia, has released the following communique:

"Contact with an aircraft with seven crewmen aboard was lost yesterday, 15 May, at 2240 [0140 16 May GMT], as the plane was conducting night naval operations 126 nautical miles northeast of Pena Cape, Isla Grande, Tierra del Fuego. The destroyer Hercules, fast attack craft Intrepida and Indomita, and a Navy reconnaisance airplane were also participating in the operations. Search and rescue operations were immediately ordered. Besides the above-mentioned ships, the patrol boat Sobral, two Electra maritime exploration airplanes, and a territorial government airplane are also participating in the search and rescue effort."

The communique is signed by Southern Naval Area commander, Captain Cosentino.

REPORTAGE ON END OF SALVADORAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Duarte Dinner Speech

PY161836 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0043 GMT 16 May 86

[Speech by Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte after a dinner in his honor at the Buenos Aires City Hall of Speeches -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President of the Argentine Republic, Mrs Alfonsin: Tonight, I want to start by thanking the nation's president for the invitation and the cordial welcome he extended me and the representatives of El Salvador. For us, it is a privilege to be in Argentina, because history tells us of the influence that the Argentine people have had on our fatherland. One only needs to look at the colors of our respective flags to realize that there must be something behind that similarity. This similarity comes from the time when San Martin was forging your independence, and the wind of achievement in the south reached us, laden with connotations of freedom and justice, which our forefathers understood only too well.

Mr president, I come to Argentina at your invitation with the purpose of talking with the government, all the countrty's political and social sectors, and fundamentally with the Argentine people. I came to talk to you about the situation, the crisis, the pain my people are experiencing. I came to tell you about the suffering caused by the sight of brothers killing brothers.

Mr President, I came to tell the Argentine people that we in El Salvador have learned, through pain and suffering that have spared no family throughout our land, the lesson of violence. This is why we no longer want violence. In the last 5 years, our people have gone to the polls four times to cast their ballots and elect a candidate. But above all, the Salvadoran people have gone to cast their ballot for peace, for a political project offering a different road other than violence.

So, between the extreme right, which mobilized its death squads to maintain through assassinations some privileges, and the example left, which advocates violent revolution to replace authoritarianism with totalitarianism, the Salvadoran people have chosen the broad road of peace, pluralism, and democracy, perhaps without knowing what it is, but sensing that democracy was the true road to choose.

Since our independence, we have had, with a few exceptions, 50 years of dictatorship. We have suffered under the belief that personal influence, money, and force were the only three motives prevailing in our society. This is why our people have suffered so much and have lived through circumstances in which, on the one side, there was a majority who lived in poverty and hunger. These were the conditions that caused the loss of reason in our country. These were the conditions in which, for the lack of a political solution and for the lack of justice, dictatorships used force to supress freedom. Out of desperation some people took up arms and went to the hills, to seek a violent revolution. They ignored the democratic way, perhaps because they did not know what democracy is. The people, however, sensed that the democratic way is the road to follow, and so they have chosen it. This is why, after four elections, the people elected me as the president of the Republic of El Salvador. But they gave me a mandate: to find peace.

As you have said so well, Mr President, this peace cannot be found only within our nation. This peace cannot be attained through an internal search alone, because outside factors have a bearing on this process. It is, therefore, indispensable to have a new institution represented by the democratic will of the peoples of Latin America. By our blood, our language, and our beliefs, we are Latin Americans. We must unite to face the problems that confront us at this time of crisis for the community of nations. This is, Mr President, a decisive moment in the history of our peoples. This is the moment at which Latin America must be transformed from a contingent of hope into a continent of reality and reason. This is the time when a united Latin American must assert its free will and enforce those values that will guarantee, for all men and women of our continent, a life of freedom, justice, and peace.

Therefore, our aspiration is to strenuously seek peace. We know that we will not attain it if we fail to understand that the five nations of Central America are subject, in one way or another to reciprocal influences. We are aware of the fact that we have created a vacuum in Central America, a political vacuum which, thanks to the initiative of four countries, has begun to be filled by the Contadora project. The 21 points of the Contadora proposal are indeed a political program for all the democratic, pluralist nations that are sensible to the social aspirations of their people. This is a program of social justice and political freedom. It is also a program of respect among the men and women of our nations, as well as for those of other nations. In short, it is a Latin American program for the liberation of Latin America. The Contadora project contains all the fundamental proposals, which duly implemented and verified, can bring peace to Central America, and can create an institution of Latin American democracy.

Finally, the Contadora project is the open door to freedom. We must make our best efforts to ensure that it will not remain a piece of worthless paper, with or without signatures. We must translate the Contadora project into a reality, with the instruments, the mechanisms, and methods that will ensure its validity.

Mr President, the blue and white colors of our flags are those of heaven, which is the abode of the illustrious figures of our nations in the presence of the Almighty. They will bless our work to consolidate peace, justice and freedom. Thank you very much. [long applause]

Joint Statement Signed

PY171333 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 May (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin and his Salvadoran counterpart, Jose Napoleon Duarte, today agreed on the need to engage in a political dialogue with the industrialized nations to find an effective solution to the foreign debt problem, which has jeopardized political and socioeconomic stability and democracy in developing nations.

In a joint statement issued this evening, the two presidents stated that the current transfer of financial resources to the industrialized countries has inhibited growth, adding that the adjustment process is very one-sided, because it has been shouldered exclusively by the debtor countries. In the statement, Duarte stated that his country unconditionally supports Argentina's sovereign rights over the Malvinas, South Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands, and deplored the existence of such an anarchronistic colonial situation on American soil.

The Salvadoran president voiced concern over the militarization of the islands by Great Britain, which has affected regional peace and security, and advocated the resumption of bilateral negotiations in search of a peaceful solution to the sovereignty issue, within the framework of the United Nations' resolutions.

For his part, Alfonsin said, speaking about the Central American situation, that it is imperative to count on the political will of the five governments of the region, so that the act for peace and cooperation may be signed or ratified, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention. The Argentine president stressed that the countries that have interests and ties in the region must properly guarantee that the terms of the act will be fulfilled.

Alfonsin acknowledged that the Salvadoran Government is politically willing to reach an accord leading to the signing of the Act for Peace and Cooperation in Central America. For his part, Duarte expressed his country's satisfaction with Argentina's participation in this quest for peace, pluralistic democracy, security, and cooperation. The two presidents reiterated their support for the principle of peaceful settlement of international controversies. They agreed on the need to promote bilateral cooperation and reiterated their determination to give impetus to the project in which 200 Salvadoran families will settle in northeastern Argentina to introduce new crops.

Duarte emphasized the efforts that his government has made to strengthen the democratic and pluralistic institutions in his country and to guarantee full respect for the human rights and liberties of the Salvadoran people. In this regard, Alfonsin expressed his hope that the dialogue between the government of President Duarte and the Salvadoran opposition wil help achieve peace in that sister republic.

Duarte Departs

PY171307 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1203 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 May (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today went to the military section of the Aeroparque metropolitan airport to bid farewell to his Salvadoran counterpart, Jose Napoleon Duarte, who thus ended a 4-day visit to our country.

During his stay in Argentina, Duarte met with Alfonsin and with senior officials and politicians. Alfonsin and Duarte signed a joint declaration in which, among other things, they agreed on the need to hold a political dialogue with developed countries, to find an effective solution to the foreign debt issue. Duarte also held a press conference. The Salvadoran president departed at 0855 [1155 GMT] for Ezeiza International Airport, where he will board a jet to Rio de Janeiro at 0920 [1220 GMT].

REPORTAGE ON CHILEAN SPY-RING INVESTIGATION

Army Asks to Participate

PY170344 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0003 GMT 17 May 86

[Excerpt] Mar del Plata, 16 May (NA) -- The Army today asked that it "be allowed to participate in the case" in this city involving a spy network. Meanwhile federal police are seeking some 15 people involved in the case.

In a petition filed with Trial Judge Eduardo Pettigiani, the Army asked that "it be allowed to participate in the case in order to investigate whether the Army has suffered damage because of the spy ring's actions." The federal police are trying to locate some 15 people accused by detainee Carmen Isabel Luna of being members of the group. These people are also being sought for car theft and document forgery. Among those sought are a brother of Navy Corporal Jorge Luis Luzurraga and two individuals known as "Huergo" and "Daniel."

Communique on Chilean Request

PY162129 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1806 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 May (TELAM) -- The Argentine Foreign Ministry today denied that Chilean Ambassador to Argentina Arturo Fontaine Aldunate asked for a clarification of the Mar del Plata spy network issue during a meeting last Wednesday with Latin America Affairs Under Secretary Raul Alconada Sempe. The Foreign Ministry today released a communique denying such a report.

Chilean Embassy on Communique

PY170234 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0012 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 May (TELAM) -- The press office of the Chilean Embassy in Buenos Aires has refuted a communique released by the Argentina Foreign Ministry denying that Chilean Ambassador Arturo Fontaine Aldunate asked for a clarification concerning a spy network uncovered in Mar del Plata. The communique states that Ambassador Fontaine Aldunate actually met last Wednesday with Latin American Affairs Under Secretary Raul Alconada Sempe. The communique adds that during the meeting the Chilean ambassador sought to clarify some points concerning Argentine-Chilean relations, including determining who was responsible for the espionage case in Mar del Plata.

Preventive Custody for Suspects

PY162236 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1746 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Mar del Plata, 16 May (TELAM) -- Mar del Plata Federal Judge Julio Eduardo Pettigiani today confirmed to TELAM that he has ruled that five detainees, charged with spying for Chile at the Mar del Plata Naval Base, must be held in preventive custody. Pettigiani added that he has rejected release petitions, a ruling which has reportedly been appealed in two cases. The judge stated that from a legal viewpoint, the rejection is based on Article 380 of the Penal Code.

TERRORISTS BOMB 8 RADICAL PARTY OFFICES

PY172333 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 May 86 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Bombs ripped apart eight Radical Party neighbourhood offices yesterday, provoking strong outrage from across the political spectrum, which laid the blam on "misfits from the recent past bent on discrediting democracy." Explosions shattered the early morning quiet between 1 am and 2:30 am in Radical committee centres in Villa Lure, Flores, Colegiales, Caballito and Nunez (city), and also in La Plata, Ramos Mejia and Martinez (Buenos Aires). A ninth bomb was defused in the San Cristobal neighbourhood.

Only one victim was reported, a teenage girl who was cut by flying glass at the 1301 Conde office (Colegiales).

In a 90-minute bombing spree, terrorists mounted what appeared to be a well-coordinated, unprecedented attack against Radical Party headquarters since the return to democracy. Government spokesmen described the bombings as the work of intelligence agents fired in an effort to bring the unruly intelligence services under control, but discounted any connection with the Malvinas trial verdicts handed down the same day.

UCR Lower House Majority Leader Cesar Jaroslavsky attributed the explosions to "fascist groups probably linked to the dictatorial government that democracy evicted in 1983." Jaroslavsky undescored: "Here we see the work of a well-organized group of about 20 people in seven cars who produce a chain of bomb explosions" in a brief time-span. Radical offices were targets because "we are the enemies of terrorism," he said, and linked the bombings to the Malvinas verdicts and the human rights "march against impunity."

Defence Secretary Horacio Jaunarena said the attacks were the doings of "elements that have not learned to adapt to the new style of convivencia and have chosen violence as a means of expression."

UCR Lower House Defense Committee Chairman Antonio Berhongaray held "minority groups" responsible. "I don't know who they were," he added, "but in the final analysis they have no ideology. The far-right and the far-left always walk together; Today here, tomorrow there; those who began on the far-right Tacuara (nationalist group in the late, '50s and early '60s that later splintered, some of its leaders forming the Montoneros) ended on the far-left."

EL SALVADOR'S DUARTE ARRIVES, MEETS REPORTERS

PY172344 Paris AFP in Spanish 2042 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 17 May (AFP) -- Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte stated today in Rio de Janeiro that the main objective of his trip to South America is to exchange points of views on the Central American situation with countries that support the action of the Contadora Group. Duarte made this statement at an impromptu press conference on arriving in Rio de Janeiro, first stop on his 5-day official visit to Brazil, following a visit to Buenos Aires.

Duarte said he wants to exchange ideas with the Brazilian Government and to demonstrate the efforts the Salvadoran people are making to establish a democratic regime through the respect for human rights, dialogue, understanding, and tolerance.

Regarding the Central American situation, the Salvadoran president stated that his government has a clear and definite position on the Contadora act, which will be signed in June. He said the most important thing is not to sign a document but rather to fulfill the principles of that document, and El Salvador is ready to fulfill them.

Duarte will leave on 19 May for Sao Paulo, and the following day for Brasilia, where he will meet with his Brazilian counterpart, Jose Sarney.

Bomb Explosion

PY180200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0056 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 17 May (EFE) -- A homemade bomb, which ripped a commemorative plaque, went off tonight at Laranjeiras Palace, where Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte was to have dinner with Rio de Janeiro Governor Leone Brizola. Duarte, who today arrived in this city for a visit of several days, was getting ready to have dinner with the controversial governor, who had just accused Brazilian President Jose Sarney of trying to economically blockade the state of Rio de Janeiro.

The Salvadoran president, who held a press conference on arriving in Rio, said there are no peace possibilities in Central America "without the support of Latin American and especially of Brazil." Duarte stressed the importance of Brazilian participation in peace negotiations, because "due to its geographic situation and its economic and cultural importance, it is one of the most important representatives in the quest of the Latin American destiny."

Demonstrators At Hotel

PY190255 Paris AFP in Spanish 2246 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 18 May (AFP) -- Members of the Latin American Peoples Solidarity Committee (Cosplan) today held a demonstration against Salvadoran President Jose Napleon Duarte in this city. The demonstrators stood in front of Duarte's hotel shouting slogans against him. He remained in his room during the demonstration.

Brazilian police limited themselves to watching the demonstrators, who, after harassing the Salvadoran president, walked away in an orderly manner. Jose Napoleon Duarte arrived in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday, tomorrow he will go to Sao Paulo; and Tuesday he will fly to Brasilia where he will meet his Brazilian colleague, Jose Sarney.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT CHANGE INFORMATICS POLICY

PY161848 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Despite the U.S. Government's threat to enforce commercial retaliatory measures against Brazil, the Brazilian Government will not change its informatics policy. President Sarney has clearly expressed his opinion on this matter, saying that this is a sovereign decision that cannot be changed just because of foreign pressure.

The United States has no right to adopt retaliatory measures against Brazilian exports if the Brazilian Government refuses to repeat the measures that restrict the import of informatics equipment in Brazil. This was said yesterday at the Foreign Ministry by Pablo Noguera Batista the Brazilian ambassador to Geneva and Swiss-based international organizations. He was commenting on U.S. press reports which stated that the United States may take retaliatory measures against Brazilian trade before September.

The ambassador's statement confirms the Brazilian Government's decision to continue enforcing market restrictions on sales of imported micro and mini-computers, which allows foreign participation only through the import of foreign-made software. The Brazilian diplomat said that if the United States adopts retaliatory measures against Brazil, these will have to be approved by GATT and not merely by the U.S. Congress. The ambassador also explained that GATT includes provisions that allow its members to adopt trade restriction measures to protect new industries. The U.S. Government itself adopted restrictive measures to protect its informatics market for 5 years, while Brazil has enforced similar measures on other sectors, including the car industry.

As for international relations, Brazil does not violate any that may affect its informatics law. If the United STates decides to suspend or decrease Brazilian imports, Brazil may answer this decision by opening the Brazilian car market to the Japanese or by imposing new taxes on foreign films. Brazil's reaction depends on the U.S. Government's official position regarding the issue.

Bill To Counter U.S. Sanctions

PY171921 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Senator Severo Gomes of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMOB], Sao Paulo State, has submitted a bill which seeks to impose economic sanctions on those countries restricting imports of Brazilian products. The bill was prompted by reports on U.S. measures restricting imports of some Brazilian products because of the computer market reserve established by the Brazilian informatics law.

Here are highlights of the measures proposed by Senator Gomes: Prohibit participation in any association or organization (?recognized) by the federal government, states, or municipalities; prohibit the sending of foreign currency abroad, representing profits, salaries, interest, amortization and so forth. [sentence as heard] The bill proposes that such profits be kept in the country as long as restrictions are imposed on Brazilian goods and services.

Brazilian and U.S. diplomats believe the pressures on the Brazilian informatics law are politically motivated and directly linked to the elections slated for this year in both countries. The Brazilian Foreign Ministry has stated that the Brazilian Government will request that the U.S. Government explain these press reports.

Science and Technology Minister Renato Archer has said that there is great confusion stemming from contradicting press reports concerning deadlines for amending the Brazilian informatics law.

SARNEY ACCEPTS INVITATION TO VISIT USSR

PY161706 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] President Jose Sarney will visit the Soviet Union sometime in the future. He was invited yesterday by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Chernyshev, who is returning to his country. During the meeting, the Soviet diplomat handed Sarney a copy of the speech delivered by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on the extent of the Chernobyl nuclear plant accident.

ULYSSES GUIMARAES RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

PY161903 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes has returned hoime. Here is a relay by Luis Carlos (Gerzel), who reports:

[Begin relay] Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, left the hospital today at exactly 1200, 2 hours before schedule. The car that took him, an Impala, left at high speed from the hospital's garage, thus avoiding the journalists who had been waiting for him since early in the morning.

Within a few minutes, Guimaraes had arrived at his home, which is located on Rua Cabo Verde in the Jardim Paulistano neighborhood. The only contact he has made with the press so far has been from the balcony of his room on the 2D story. At about 1000, when he was still at the hospital, his stepson, Tito Henrique da Silva Neto, told journalists that only Ulysses Guimaraes will decide whether or not to comply with the rest that has been prescribed by the doctors.

Upon arrival a few minutes ago, Guimaraes' private secretary, Osvaldo (Menicardo), said that the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] president does not intend to request leave from his duties as president of the Chamber of Deputies.

STATE POLICE SAY COUNCILMAN KILLED PRIEST

PY180128 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Arazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] The killers of Father Josimo Tavares have been identified. The instigator of the crime has been identified as Councilman Osmar Teodoro da Silva, alias Nenem, whose brother was killed by squatters in the district of Sao Sebastiao, where the priest was working. The Maranhao state police have reported that the killers have been identified as Vilson Nunes Cardoso and Geraldo Rodrigues. The police also reported that Father Josimo Tavares was involved in three judicial inquiries into several deaths and that he was responsisble for the illegal occupation during which the councilman's brother was killed.

BRIEFS

NEW PETROBRAS PRESIDENT -- Colonel Ozires Silva, the current Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] president, is the new Petrobras president. The announcement was made today by Energy and Mines Minister Aureliano Chaves after a meeting with President Jose Sarney. Silva is replacing Helio Beltrao. [Excerpts] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 May 86 PY]

BOMB EXPLODES NEAR FRENCH CONSULATE IN TALCA

PY180320 Paris AFP in Spanish 0144 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Talca, Chile, 17 May (AFP) -- Police sources have reported that the French Consulate and a government office in the city of Talca, 260 km south of Santiago, were damaged today by the explosion of a bomb planted by unidentified persons.

The target of explosion was the Housing and Urban Development Service [Serviu -- Servicio de Vivienda y Urbanismo]. Luis Eduard Silva de Balboa, the French honoray consul, told AFP that the bomb shattered all the windows in the consular residence.

The explosion damaged the serviu office, and no subversive group has claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred before dawn.

Similar attacks in the past have been claimed by the leftist clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front.

ASSAILANTS TAKE OVER UPI OFFICE IN SANTIAGO

PY190230 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0052 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Santiago, 18 May (EFE) -- Unidentified assailants took over the office of UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL in downtown Santiago today and demanded that a political proclamation be dispatched.

The assault took place at 1800 [200 GMT] when an editor and a secretary were working in the office. They were threatened with pistols by three men and a woman who demanded that a greeting marking the anniversary of the United Popular Action Movement, MAPU, be transmitted.

The proclamation was only partially transmitted to some subscribers, as the assailants, disguised with glasses and wigs, painted the world MAPU on the walls of the office, where they remained for 30 minutes. The Santiago UPI office is across the street from La Moneda Palace, the government building, and adjacent to Bulnes Plaza and the Defense Ministry.

61 PEOPEL ARRESTED DURING RAIDS IN CAPITAL DISTRICTS

PY161407 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] A total of 61 people were arrested during a raid conducted by military forces and carabineros in the 1 de Mayo, Santa Lucia, and La Piramide districts [words indistinct] in Penaflor district.

According to official information, 1,124 people were checked, of whom 61 have been detained by the police who held arrest warrants [words indistinct] by several Santiago Courts.

During the raid, the police forces discovered a home-made mimeograph and subversive material.

OPERATIONS AGAINST M-19 IN VALLE, CAUCA REPORTED

PA181957 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Cali -- At this time troops of the 3d Brigade are participating in raids and operations in the southern Valle del Cauca Department as part of the plan developed by the Armed Forces in that region to cut off the supply channels for the M-19 rebels currently operating in that southern area.

Brigadier General Hernan Jose Guzman, commander of the 3d Brigade, has said that the military and police forces in Valle del Cauca and Cauca Departments are determined to eradicate once and for all the guerrilla scourge from those departments. The so-called America Battalion has made that region the center of its insurgent operations.

Military sources reported that 20 guerrillas of the so-called M-19 group were killed during clashes over the weekend, and that the authorities have confiscated a large number of weapons.

1-WEEK REBEL, ARMY CASUALTIES REPORTED

PA170223 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] This week has ended with tragedies in Colombia. In the past 24 hours the resurgence of violence has resulted in 21 people dead, including a priest in Santander, and 23 others wounded. Most of the dead and wounded were the result of clashes between the guerrillas and the Armed Forces. This week more than 50 people have been killed and 37 wounded.

The week began with a Popular Liberation Army [EPL] ambush on soldiers in Cordoba. As a result of this ambush, a soldier was wounded.

On Tuesday FARC rebels attacked the police in San Jose de Ocune. Four policemen and four rebels were killed. Meanwhile, terrorist actions were reported in Bogota.

On Wednesday the EPL attacked Sabaneta. A bank guard was killed. In Valdivia, Antioquia Department, four peasants were killed. Meanwhile, fighting was reported in Jambalo against American Battalion guerrillas. As a result of Wednesday's clashes, 2 soldiers and 12 rebels died. In Yopal two more rebels were killed during clashes with the police. One policeman was wounded.

On Thursday the EPL and M-19 attacked Belmira, Antioquia Department. Two soldiers were wounded and two guerrillas killed. A bomb exploded at a police station in Bucaramanga and clashes were reported in Jambalo. Nine guerrillas were reported dead during these clashes.

Early this morning 80 National Liberation Army [ELN] men attacked the Agrarian Bank and police station in Simiti. Three policemen were killed and five wounded. Meanwhile, in Remedios Jurisdiction, Antioquia Department, Bombona Battalion soldiers were attacked. Two guerrillas and nine soldiers were killed and 20 soldiers were wounded during this attack.

RADIO NANDUTI GOES TO COURT OVER INTERFERENCE

PY172153 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 16 May 86 p 9

[Text] Criminal Judge Cesar Garay has sent an official letter to Colonel Francisco Feliciano Duarte, general administrator of the National Administration for Telecommunications (Antelco), asking him to tell the court whether he has any knowledge of the constant interference suffered by Radio Nanduti. The judge also requested that Antelco use the necessary technical means to find out where the interference is originating, and then to eliminate it so that Radio Nanduti can normally broadcast its AM and FM programs. The letter is believed to be an urgent measure and it was sent in response to a petition filed this morning by Humberto Rubin, director of the radio station. When Rubin was asked about the interference, he said, among other things: "The problem is creating a desperate situation." He added that the number of advertisers has diminished considerably. Rubin said: "Many of them have withdrawn their advertisements because we cannot fulfill our contracts due to interference on the 1020 KHZ frequency."

The director of Radio Charitas, Father Javier Arancon, has denied a report by the DPA news agency, datelined Bonn, that he has been expelled from Asuncion because of his station's news reporting. The Franciscan priest explained that he has not been expelled at any time and that he remains at the head of the radio station, doing his work as usual. THe DPA report said: "The Missionary Center of the Franciscan Order has sent a protest from Bonn to the Paraguayan president regarding the expulsion from Asuncion of the Spanish Franciscan priest Javier Arancon, director of Radio Charitas."

POLICE DISPERSE, INJURE WORKERS AFTER MASS

PY190340 Paris AFP in Spanish 0239 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Asuncion, 18 May (AFP) -- Over 20 people were injured, 3 of them seriously, during violent police repression against workers who attended a mass this evening to pray for the release of political detainees and the cessation of police and parapolice repression. The incident occurred following the mass, which was held at the Beato Roque Gonzalez de Santa Cruz Church in this capital, when the leaders of the independent Interunion Workers Movement, waiting at the church's entrance, called for an active struggle for the democratization of Paraguay. Shortly after the song Dear Fatherland was sung and some speeches were made the police, without any warning, moved against the group of people, who scattered in panic and took refuge inside the church. Some workers and political leaders, who were trying to protect the women, openly confronted the policemen who did not manage to enter the church. The stampede of people, who a few minutes before had been shouting slogans for justice and freedom and against the government, caused a commotion, and several people were trampled by their own colleagues, who were trying to escape the police beating. According to a witness, a uniformed policeman threw one of the church pews at the frightened people, who took refuge inside the church, but the policemen did not enter the church. The incidents lasted about 20 minutes, until parish priest Americo Ferreira managed to calm the furious policemen, who then permitted the workers to depart peacefully. Questioned by AFP, the parish priest said the mass went on peacefully and the people at no time provoked the police. This repression was unwarranted, he said, adding that the beating was savage, which has become common these days. The parish priest said that what has happened here is not as serious as what may happen in the future. The justice that Paraguayans desire will come but unfortunately at a deplorable cost, he added. Later Sunday night the police continued to patrol the area near the Beato Roque Gonzalez de Santa Cruz Church, but the people had already dispersed, the priest reported.

GARCIA MEETS CUBAN, SELA, GUATEMALAN OFFICIALS

PY171739 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] President Alan Garcia today held a 2-hour meeting with Cuban Fisheries Industry Minster Jorge Fernandez. The meeting ended at 1300.

A few minutes later President Garcia met with SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Allegrett, who has been in our country on an official visit since 14 May. Allegrett's visit is designed to improve international economic prospects for Latin American countries. SELA seeks to promote joint positions among its 25 member countries. The meeting between Garcia and Allegret was strictly private. The following is a report by Patricia Bongos from Government Palace.

[Begin relay] Good evening. President Alan Garcia this afternoon met with Guatemalan Labor Minister Catalina Soberanis, who arrived today in Lima to undertake several official activities. Soberanis spent 1 hour at Government Palace and discussed important issues related to Central America with President Garcia. Upon her arrival in Lima, Soberanis announced that Central American presidents will meet in her country on 24-25 May to try to work toward signing a peace document for Central America and to study the possibility of creating a Central American parliament, an instrument that would supplement the efforts of the Contadora Group. Soberanis reiterated that her country maintains a neutral position in Central America, that is, it respects the principles of self-determination of all peoples and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of the countries. [end relay]

SELA SECRETARY ON UNITY, ECONOMIC PRESSURE

PY161550 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0404 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Lima, 14 May (EFE) -- Sebastian Alegrett, permanent secretary of SELA, today in Lima stated that the region requires joint actions and needs to become stronger in order to confront the economic pressures exerted by the developed countries. Alegrett, who arrived in Lima today on an official visit, made this statement at a conference entitled "Prospects for Latin American International Economic Relations" organized by the Peruvian International Studies Center [Centro Peruano de Estudios Internationals, CEPEI].

The Venezuelan diplomat stated that "nothing would be more effective than to fully develop an internal Latin American integration and cooperation process to strengthen the negotiating capacity with third parties. We must unitedly confront the negotiating power imbalance, which favors the powerful countries," stated Alegrett, who in his address referred to the increasing protectionism of the industrialized countries that "have ruined the economies of Latin American countries." He said that a new international monetary system had been established "silently" without taking into account the interests and views of the developing countries, and less still the Latin American countries. He added that the creditor countries do not handle the foreign debt problem as they should and that "the problem is not granted a real solution," and that the political dialogue proposed by the Consensus of Cartagena member countries "has not been taken into account."

Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner, commenting on the subject discussed by Alegrett, stated that it is necessary to continue Latin American integration and economic cooperation effots as well as to continue efforts in the political cooperation field.

Wagner stated that the Cartagena Consensus is seeking a solution to the problems of the region. He also referred to the crisis affecting the multilateral system, stating that there is a tendency to take the most important subjects away from the negotiating organizations and discuss them at private negotiating tables. Wagner reiterated the need to organize the response and action capacity in order to be able to appropriately react to the measures implemented against Latin American countries and said that as long as this is not achieved, "our capacity will be very limited." The Peruvian foreign minister ended by stating that SELA must be strengthened and developed so that it may become the organization that "achieves Latin American unity."

PANAMA'S ABADIA ON CONTADORA PACT SIGNING

PY161739 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 May 86

[Excerpts] During a press conference Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia stated that there are only two chapters on which the Central American nations have not yet agreed. The first refers to arms limitation and the presence of troops in the region, while the second refers to international military maneuvers, which includes the presence of foreign advisers in the area.

[Begin recording] What you have just said is correct. All of the Central American countries, including Nicaragua, have committed themselves in writing to sign the Central American cooperation and peace agreement on 6 June in Panama. We have a note signed by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in which he commits himself to sign the peace agreement on 6 June. We would not like to subject the signing of this agreement to speculation that has been made in Nicaragua and elsewhere which indicates that President Daniel Ortega is conditioning the signing of the agreement to an end to the aggression being carried out against the Nicaraguan Government and its people. We would like to refer to the note released by the U.S. Government in which it states that the minute the Nicaraguan Government signs the peace agreement on 7 June in Panama, it will withdraw its support for the irregular troops fighting against the Nicaraguan Government. We would like to avoid any conditioning, because otherwise we may find ourselves in a vicious circle. I would prefer that we follow the Caraballeda Agreement, which states that simultaneous actions will occur at the time the peace agreement is signed. All those present at that meeting committed themselves to the Caraballeda Agreement. This was wholeheartedly supported by Peru through its distinguished foreign minister, Allan Wagner. All of us committed ourselves to the idea of simultaneous action that will take place when the peace agreement is signed; that is, we will not subject one action to another but rather that one action follow the other. This will mean that the signing of the peace agreement will lead to the immediate cessation of U.S. support to irregular forces fighting against the Nicaraguan Government. This was personally confirmed in Costa Rica, during the inaugural ceremony of President Oscar Arias, by U.S. Vice President Goerge Bush, who during a breakfast meeting that was attended by the Peruvian foreign minister, said that the United States will comply to the letter with the commitment made in Habib's letter, which specifically mentions this. As I was telling a distinguished journalist during an interview this morning, we, in the Contadora Group and in the Contadora Support Group, have no reason to doubt Bush's word. [end recording]

Abadia also said that the Contadora agreement will be more than a mere document, because once it is signed it will be legally binding.

PRESIDENT, PARLIAMENTARIANS DISCUSS DISARMAMENT

FL160250 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0125 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Mexico City, 15 may (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid said today that Mexico will insist on total prohibition of nuclear testing and weapons.

Upon meeting with the representatives of the parliamentarian World Action Organization, the chief executive said Mexico will not cease its struggle to strengthen dialogue between the superpowers.

At Los Pinos, the official residence the president said the country is an active part of the Group of Six which struggles for peace and disarmament and which will meet in Mexico City to establish new methods and to reconcile differences between nations.

The parliamentarians gathered at Los Pinos with their president, Onafur Ogrimsson. They were accompanied by Mexican Senator Silvia Hernandez. During their speeches, Mr Ogrimsson and Senator Hernandez recongnized De la Madrid's concern for world peace.

During his speech, President De la Madrid said world parliamentary action is characterized as group dependent on peaceful actions.

Later, the president met with the Mexican and Belizean delegations which presented him with a report on the results of the interparliamentary meeting between the two countries.

The Mexican delegation is headed by Senator Alberto Villaneuva and Deputy Jose Gonzalez Badillo. Honesimo Pech heads the Belizean delegation.

De la Madrid called on the two delegations to increase relations for mutual benefit.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SENDS LETTER TO U. S. AMBASSADOR

FL171642 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Mexico City, 16 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Attorney General Sergio Garcia Ramirez has sent a letter to U.S. Ambassador to Mexico John Gavin in which he requests that if Gavin has information regarding crimes pertaining to Mexican authorities he make them available as thoroughly and clearly as possible.

In the letter, Dr Garcia Ramirez reiterated that if such information is available, no friendship, professional, or family tie will prevent the strict enforcement of the law.

He also expressed his reiterated willingness to receive any information related to crimes over which the Mexican Federal Department of the Public Prosecutor would legally have jurisdiction.

The text of the letter sent to the U.S. deplomat by Attorney General Garcia Ramirez reads as follows:

Distinguished Mr Ambassador:

I warmly greet you and address to you a subject that today personally pertains to you.

On several occasions, including today, I have addressed U.S. Government officials -- verbally and in writing -- to express the most open and permanent willingness to receive any report regarding crimes whose prosecution would legally correspond to Mexico's Federal Department of the Public Prosecutor. Several of my collaborators at the Attorney General's office have done the same thing. Needless to say, we have underscored this interest after hearing and reading remarks in which Mexican citizens -- public officials or private citizens related to public officials -- are involved. This action has been taken with the assumption that those who made such remarks may have information to back them up that would be useful in the appropriate observance of the law. Up to now, no one who has made remarks or has implied that these kinds of illicit acts are taking place -- or who have taken credit for making them -- has given us specific information that would lead to a reasonably founded investigation.

It is public knowledge that the recently held U.S. Senate hearings explicitly or implicitly mentioned that Mexican citizens are or may be involved in crimes against health taking into consideration these circumstances, and within the framework of the efficient cooperation the two governments maintain, I respectfully request we be given any available information regarding crimes that Mexican authorities are entitiled to prosecute. I reiterate to you that if there is information suitable for the prosecution of crimes, no friendship, professional, or family tie will prevent the strictest enforcement of the law.

I also stress our willingness to continue developing actions regarding the antidrug smuggling and drug abuse campaign. This task unites our people and governments in the achievement of these shared goals, as mentioned in the latest meetings held between the U.S. and Mexican attorneys General which have shown considerable progress.

As I mentioned, considering the nature of the subject of this letter, I feel that its contents should be made public.

I take this opportunity, Mr Ambassador, to reiterate my cordial friendship and appreciation.

PRI COMMITTEE SCORES U.S. SENATE 'MEDDLING'

PA161559 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] The PRI National Executive Committee has issued a bulletin supporting all the statements rejecting U.S. Senate meddling in the internal affairs of our country. The bulletin reiterates that the tone and the text of the statements made during a meeting of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee for Hemispheric Affairs are marked with lies and slander about the true Mexican situation. In this communique, PRI points out that its members will not fall into the provocative trap prepared by those who are seeking sterile confrontations and work to promote a misinformation process against Mexico.

The bulletin notes that the party will never silently accept foreign officials discussing situations that are of the sole concern of Mexicans. The document states that the party frimly expresses its solidarity with the government headed by President Miguel de la Madrid which with firmness and dignity defends Mexico's highest interests.

The bulletin concludes by stating that the nation's defense is today more than ever a task of all the Mexicans, united, in essential aspects, by party fellowship.

DELVALLE PRESENTS CANAL TREATY COMPLIANCE PLAN

PA171729 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 17 May 86 pp 1, 24

[By Carlos Nunez]

[Excerpt] President Eric Arturo Delvalle last night proposed a national plan to ensure U.S. compliance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and the development of the Canal area to benefit Panamanian society.

Upon closing the second national meeting of professionals of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) at the Atlapa Convention Center, Delvalle praised the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, saying that they guaranteed the decolonization of the Canal Zone and strengthened peace in a country in a region torn by political and social conflicts. After accepting the challenge the treaties pose to all Panamanians, the president revealed to the PRD his plan to ensure strict compliance with the treaties by the United States, the modernization of the Canal so that it continues to operate efficiently far beyond the year 2000, and assurance that the areas that are returned to Panama according tothe treaties' provisions be put to the best possible use.

Delvalle summarized his action plan as follows:

1. To draft a plan on the use of the Canal area, to intergrate it into national development and share its benefits with the entire community.

2. To strengthen negotiations with the United States so that it will undertake the project to make Culegra Cut wider, in accordance with clearly outlined treaty provisions.

3. To firmly request that the United States revise the [laws governing the] implementation of the treaties so that these are line with the letter and spirit of the Canal Treaties.

4. To reactivate pressure for the growing participation of Panamanians in executive and management positions in the Panama Canal Commission.

5. To draft a package for the development of the Canal area, to include the construction of streets and highways, including the expansion of the Panama-Arraijan road, and the refurbishing of areas for commericial activities, industry, and tourism.

6. To well housing and lands according to a properly consulted and well-defined plan designed to benefit the most needy.

7. To take vigorous actions to rehabilitate the Canal watershed and undertake negotiations with the U.S. Government so that it shares the cost of said program.

8. To participate in the implementation of studies on alternatives to the canal and for the development of new ocean transport technologies.

President Delvalle's lengthy speech was followed by long applause by the thousands of PRD followers who attended the event. They particularly applauded the section about taking vigorous actions to get the revision of Law 96-70 so that it follows the letter and spirit of the treaties.

NORIEGA HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR EISENMANN'S SAFETY

PA170032 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 May 86 p 1

[Excerpts] After reading a report published in this week's QUIUBO GRAFICO regarding the possibility of an attack on her husband's life, Maruja de Eisenmann has said that she holds General Manuel Antonio Noriega responsible for "any physical harm" that might befall her husband Roberto Eisenmann.

Mrs Eisenmann's complete statement reads as follows: "After reading yesterday's edition of the weekly newspaper QUIUBO [name as published] in which it is said that the "F-8 has orders to eliminate Eisenmann,' I, Maria Eugenia Vallarino de Eisenmann, hereby hold Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces, those who serve him in the institution he represents, and all civilians who have given him his fame and respect, responsible for any physical harm that mignt befall my husband, Roberto I. Eisenmann, who has suffered defamation, insults, slander, persecution, and exile merely for his courage and determination to bequeath to our children and grandchildren a homeland of which they may someday be proud".

MEXICAN REJECTION OF U.S. 'MEDDLING' LAUDED

PA160424 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 May 86

[Station commentary: "Mexicans' Immense Dignity"]

[Text] Even though we had expected nothing less from the proud, noble, and nationalistic Mexican people, it was reassuring to watch in its full, grandiose magnitude, the categorical and firm reaction of the government and people of that sister nation in flatly rejecting the meddling by the U.S. Congress in their internal affairs.

Mexico did not wait a single minute to deliver to the Reagan administration, without hesitation, a strong protest note rejecting the slanderous charges raised against the country. In point of fact, neither Mexicans nor any decent, self-respecting people can permit the prestige of an entire nation to be flagrantly assailed in the sessions of a Senate subcommittee headed by Jesse Helms.

According to Mexicans, what happened with the U.S. senators could well be regarded as an unfriendly gesture from one country to another, and therefore they rapidly took steps to make their position clear. Since the hearings vexatiously dealt with matters of domestic policy of thier exclusive concern, Mexicans are now demanding a public apology.

It had to be this way because otherwise, here and there, the usual irresponsible people will lend themselves to besmirch Panama's image, like before, or Mexico's image today, or that of any other worthy member of the concert of free nations of the world in the future.

Thank you very much.

COAST RICA

EDEN PASTORA, SO FOLLOWERS TURN IN WEAPONS

ARDE Prepares Security

PA161324 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] The ARDE, through its spokesman Miguel Caracas, has announced that it has prepared strict security measures for Commander Eden Pastora's entrance into the national territory. Caracas said that although the organization has placed into the hands of national security the operation for the arrival of Pastora and his men, it is also working to prevent any unpleasant incidents. He also said that ARDE will take responsibility for taking the national and foreign journalists to the point where Pastora will hold a news conference. Meanwhile, a battalion of the Civil Guard has been deployed to the border with Nicaragua in view of the entrance of Eden Pastora and his men.

Pastora Explains Surrender

PA170202 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0110 GMT 17 May 86

[By Juan Ramon Rojas]

[Text] La Curena (Costa Rica), 16 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora today turned over his weapons to the Costa Rican authorities and ordered 50 of his followers to do likewise, before giving his last news conference beside the San Juan River at the border. During a short and heartfelt speech, the legendary Commander Zero blamed the United States and the Nicaraguans who helped drown them, both militarily and economically.

"We withdraw from the armed struggle because we believe that there is no possibility of achieving a military victory," he stated while his eyes swept over various sectors of the mountain where he had gathered with approximately 100 national and international journalists. Pastora argued that they came to this decision because of the U.S. and Nicaraguan sectors which negotiated "the Manzanillo agreements" and led Contadora "to negotiate the implementation" of these agreements. Nicaragua and the United States held talks on various occasions during 1984 at the Mexican port of Manzanillo, and discussed the possibility of seeking a solution to their convulsed relations. However, the meetings were unilaterally suspended by Washington before an agreement was achieved -- at least, this was what the official reports said.

"We were the only ones who refused to be included in the negotiations," the commander said, raising his voice, adding that the other Nicaraguan opposition forces remained silent and "refused to close ranks behind just positions." "Those negotiations (in Manzanillo) are the real, basic reason we abandoned the armed struggle, before they include us in the negotiations, and before we continue to kill or die in the mountains without any possibility of achieving a military victory," Pastora stated.

Referring to the fact that most of the regional commanders fighting under him refused to acknowledge his leadership, Zero asserted that they "were misled by dirty politickers" who disoriented them politically and ideologically.

Pastora asserted that "unfortunately" those troops will not receive aid now because on 6 June, when the Contadora document is signed, the Manzanillo agreement will be implemented and the United States will abstain from giving them aid. He stressed: "This is a fact, because the war which we have abandoned is a war of pressure, not a war to defeat international communism."

Approximately 150 fighters will enter Costa Rican territory today through 4 points of the San Juan River. The points have been identified as Las Crucitas, Infiernillo, La Curena, and Delta. Two helicopters picked up the weapons turned in by Pastora, while the Rural Police, led by Deputy Security Minister Rogelio Castro Pinto, were in charge of the former fighters. According to the authorities, there were a lot of weapons but most of them are in bad condition due to excessive use and lack of maintenance.

In addition to his uncertain immigration status, Pastora will face charges in two courts: one concerning the allowance he stopped giving to a son he had out of wedlock, and another one for flying over Costa Rican territory in July 1985 without the proper authorization. The helicopter in which he made the flight developed some problems and crashed close to the place where he surrendered, but neither the commander nor his companions sustained any injuries.

Rebel Leader Taken to Cartago

PA172016 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Anti-Sandinist Commander Eden Pastora, who yesterday entered Costa Rica, is now at the Cartago Police Headquarters, police sources have reported. The sources said that there is a strict watch around the area and, for security reasons, inmates in that headquarters are not being allowed to receive visitors. It has been reported that this afternoon Major Ortiz [not further identified] will discuss with the local and international media the measures adopted because of Pastora's presence.

EL SALVADOR

VENCEREMOS REPORTS DUARTE REJECTED ON L.A. TOUR

PA160448 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] The tour by Salvadoran President Duarte was met with popular rejection in South America. Napoleon Duarte's tour to South America has in fact turned into a great act of solidarity with the struggle of the Salvadoran people. Duarte's demagogic statements could not fool the peoples who have always suffered the injustice of exploitation and who have risen up against bloodthirsty and repressive dictatorships. In Peru many labor unions, including the banking employees union, which was unable to hold public demonstrations due to the state of emergency, published paid advertisements in newspapers to show their rejection of the Duarte visit. Also, Peruvian television broadcast an interview with Salvador Samayoa and Ruben Zamora, members of the FMLN-FDR's CTD [Political-Diplomatic Commission] showing images of the actual situation in El Salvador, the human rights violations, and the people's rejection of the Duarte policies. Thus it became even clearer to all sectors that statements by Christian Democrat Duarte are demagogic.

In Uruguay, the rejection was expressed in the streets. Thousands of ribbons covered all the central streets. There were demonstrations by workers of all state and private sectors, and students who were summoned by their own unions. In the Uruguayan capital's central Independence Square, thousands of people chanted slogans like: Duarte, Duarte, Duarte will fall, as will all fascists in power. Students of the Republic of El Salvador School refused to attend classes the day that Duarte was going to visit them, frustrating another of the scheduled activities. The rejection was so widespread that he was forced to change his entire schedule, so that his appearances were secret rather than public. In fact he even changed hotels.

Upon his arrival in Argentina, the situation was no better for Duarte. A communique issued by different humanitarian organizations in that country awaited him, rejecting his visit and accusing him of violating human rights. During the 2d day of his official visit, he elicited new demonstrations from most political organizations, such as the People's Front, which includes Peronists, communists, the Movement Towards Socialism, and other sectors. Duarte has been held accountable for serious abuses committed every day in El Salvador.

The Intransigent Party called him an accomplice of U.S. aggression against Nicaragua, stating that Duarte seeks to make talks in El Salvador contingent on the Sandinist government's agreement to begin talks with the Somozist counterrevolution.

HONDURAS

ORTEGA STATEMENT ON CONTADORA CRITICIZED

PA161335 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 May 86 p 7

[Editorial: "Sandinism Says No to Peace"]

[Text] In view of the upcoming meeting to sign the Contadora Group peace and cooperation plan for Central America, Daniel Ortega, chief of the Nicaraguan Leninist military regime, publicly and categorically said that his government will not sign the plan. Complaining that his country is the "victim" of U.S. aggression and that the plan does not have any clause to compel Washington to stop giving aid to the anti-Sandinist guerrillas, which are struggling against his regime, Ortega, speaking before a group of pro-government union workers, said that Nicaragua cannot renounce its right to keep arming itself and increasing its arsenal "to defend" itself from Ronald Reagan.

Such an argument has no foundation. Anyone with patience enough to read the voluminous amount of paper drafted by the Contadora Group in its peace efforts will reach the conclusion that if the Contadora plan is carried out, the rebel bands will have no reason to exist, and Washington or any other country, will have no reason to continue supplying arms, ammunition, and logistical support. The plan establishes a condition which although peaceful, is fatal to communism: to hold periodic and supervised free elections. This is unacceptable to the Leninist regime, because it would mean the immediate election of a civilian government, in which the current military leaders would have no place. The plan also calls for the departure of foreign military advisers, which in the case of Nicaragua would mean the Cubans, Soviets, Iranians, Libyans, and others would have to leave. How can the Nicaraguan Government agree to this if the ones who really control the government in that country are the Cubans?

The plan also establishes the reduction of the military arsenals to a reasonable degree and international verification mechanisms to make it effective. The Sandinist leaders cannot accept this because it would mean giving up the "revolution without boundaries" project, which they are planning to disseminate throughout all Central America and eventually to Mexico.

Many are the reasons why the nine Leninist commanders, who control the Nicaraguan Government, will never sign the Contadora plan, but they can be summarized into one: They cannot accept these conditions and remain in power. They realize that the democratization process implicitly carries the seed that will destroy the totalitarian regime, and this is the reason why the Sandinist dictators will never accept the plan, because it would mean giving up power. Therefore, the question we ask is: After such a long and unsuccessful negotiation, what have our countries gained?

Many observers, among them Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, head of the Nicaraguan Catholic Church, long ago said that Contadora peace efforts were bound to fail, and these were others who warned that it would only lengthen the life of the Leninist dictatorship and allow its leaders to consolidate their regime. There is much truth to this. Nevertheless, we cannot deny that the quest for peace is positive by itself and that it has helped to show the world those who want to live in freedom, concord, and democracy, and those who, on the contrary, have assumed a radical commitment with totalitarism and oppression.

Many masks and disguises have fallen as a result of Ortega's recent statements. No more subtleties, euphemisms, or misrepresentations: The Managua regime has declared itself in favor of oppression and war. Those in the United States, Western Europe, and Latin America who were supporting the regime believing that it was different are now face to face with the truth.

The crucial question at this moment is: What will the next step be? Are the democratic countries going to remain indifferent in the face of such a brazen warmongering statement? The weeks ahead will give us the answer...

SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES CONTADORA, SUMMIT

PA161750 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 May 86

[Report by Regina Osorio]

[Text] The National Security Council met for more than 5 hours to analyze topics related with the forthcoming meeting of the Contadora Group and the summit of Central American presidents to be held in Esquipulas and aspects related with the arrival of refugees in the country. This was reported by Carlos Lopez Contreras, national security spokesman [and foreign minister].

[Begin recording] [Lopez Contreras] The National Security Council was briefed on the proposals that the plenipotentiaries are taking to that meeting [of Contadora] and the expectations that the negotiations might be fruitful and a document might be ready for signing on 6 June in the meeting of foreign ministers. The council also discussed the documents and agenda that have been prepared for the meeting of Central American chiefs of state on 24 and 25 May in Esquipulas.

The council also analyzed the various aspects of cooperation that are being discussed with the U.S. Government in view of the official working visit of the president to Washington on 26 and 27 May. Regarding all these aspects, I would like to say that the Honduran delegation headed by Dr Hernandez Alcero to the meeting in Panama on Saturday and Sunday is taking specific proposals in order to continue the Honduran effort to have the Contadora negotiations produce results.

[Osorio] Would the Contadora efforts fail if Nicaragua refuses to sign the peace document?

[Lopez Contreras] If the negotiationg effort does not lead to the signing of a document, it would mean a substantial setback to a process that is already 3 years old. Nevertheless, we should not be pessimistic. Instead, we must be calm and optimistic that everyone's understanding and inspiration will lead to the reestablishment of peace and cooperation in the area. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

OFFICIALS DISCUSS POSTURE ON CONTADORA

D'Escoto on Manuevers, Weapons

PA172207 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2128 GMT 17 May 86

[By Denis Garcia Salinas]

[Text] Managua, 17 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Today Nicaragua proposed an end to military maneuvers in the region and moratorium on the purchase of weapons but warned that no "illusions" should be harbored with the signing of the Contadora document to achieve peace. Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto revealed the Sandinist government's official proposal to "help finalize the negotiation process and signing of the Contadora document." During a press conference, the Sandinist diplomatic leader said that "this is the only proposal that is available to and acceptable to Central America" that "will clearly show who wants to negotiate and who wants war."

The foreign minister emphasized that the Nicaraguan position is to seek an end to international military maneuvers in the region and to the presence of troops. He also called for "an immediate moratorium on the purchase of weapons." D'Escoto also urged "the beginning of negotiations to establish ceilings on and limits to the number of weapons." He said, however, that the signing of the Contadora peace document "will not stop the war as long as the United States continues to support the contras and carry out its criminal policy."

The Sandinist position regarding the Contadora process is the same one being upheld by a Nicaraguan delegation attending a meeting of Contadora (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia) deputy foreign ministers with the other Central American countries in Panama. At that meeting they discussed the last two points pending in the document, which referred to maneuvers and arms buildup. Foreign Minister D'Escoto insisted today on continuing the discussion of these two topics.

Nevertheless, D'Escoto underlined: "We must not indulge in wishful thinking, because with or without the signing of the Contadora document, the United States will continue its immoral war" against Nicaragua. "I do not believe in the signing of papers while the United States refuses to honor the commitment it made not to attack Nicaragua," D'Escoto said. He added that as long as those "who are waging the war make no commitments, there will be no peace in the region.

D'Escoto explained that Nicaragua's proposal "is not a cure for the disease: the United States," and he added that "Nicaragua cannot negotiate with a shotgun at its head." The Nicaraguan proposal establishes that as of the signing of the document, the Central American nations will be obliged to suspend all purchases of weapons classified as offensive for a period of 180 days. Also as of the signing of the peace treaty, Nicaragua will request negotiations that will allow the establishment of ceilings on and control of offensive weapons.

Bayardo Arce Interview

PA171815 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Commader of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, deputy coordinator of the FSLN Executive Commission, reaffirmed that Nicaragua will sign the Contadora Group's peace act only if the United States stops its attacks against our country. Here is an interview with the revolutionary leader conducted by our journalist Luis Cabrera.

[Begin recording] [Cabrera] On Thursday the Panamanian foreign minister made a statement in Peru to the effect that Nicaragua had announced in a document that it will sign the Contadora Group's act. Later our ambassador denied that assertion. We would like to hear your comments on this. Is it true that Nicaragua has indeed decided to sign the Contadora Group's act before 6 June?

[Arce] I really do not know if the dispatch cited the Panamanian foreign minister correctly, or if he made that statement. The only official document issued by our government was a letter dated 12 April which President Daniel Ortega addressed to the governments of the Contadora and Support Groups. In the document, first of all we accepted the invitation to resume the negotiations for the signing of the act, to continue with the negotiations on the pending points. Second, we expressed our willingness to sign the act, provided that the pending negotiations are concluded, and if by that time the U.S. attacks have stopped.

As we know, the renegotiations or resumption of the negotiations for the act will take place in Panama on 16, 17, and 18 of May. As it has been doing all these years within the (?framework) of the negotiating process, Nicragua is participating in this meeting with a positive and constructive attitude, trying to find a peaceful and civic solution for the Central American problems. Nicaragua is probably the country in the region that is most interested in achieving peace in the region because we are experiencing U.S. attacks. However, logically, there is no other document in which we have said that we will sign the act, must less setting aside a negotiating process to which we have bveen invited, and which is in progress.

[Cabrera] Commander, President Reagan still insists on his thesis that Nicaragua must be eliminated. Vernon Walters said in Brazil that the TIAR [Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty] should be reactivated and that if Honduras requests it, the United States would intervene against Nicaragua. Another U.S. State Department official said Nicaraguan terrorism is present in El Salvador. How does Nicaragua interpret these signals from the U.S. Goverment?

[Arce] Those are precisely the elements that we feel that the Contadora and Support Group should consider seriously in the negotiating process.

Now that we are going to discuss the problem of the arms buildup and military maneuvers, which are the topics pending in the Contadora Group's process, I believe that the delegates of the Contadora and Support Groups must take into consideration the threatening attitude of the Reagan administration, through its president and its main spokesmen, when discussing the problem of the weapons that Nicaragua requires to defend itself in view of the latent threat of an attack by the U.S. Government. Furthermore, as we approach the date on which the document is expected to be signed, which is 6 June, it must be pondered if those statements show that there are chances the attacks will stop and that, therefore, a peace act will be feasible.

We feel that thus far there has been no serious indication that the Reagan administration will forsake its warmongering policy. Therefore, we have said that the statement made by negotiator Philip Habib to the effect that the United States will possibly suspend its aid to the contras if the document is signed is merely an element introduced to create expectations in order to get public support. In reality the U.S. aggressiveness prevails, and has even increased recently.

[Cabrera] One last question. In the hypothetical case that Nicaragua does not sign the Contadora Group's act, how would Nicaragua face the U.S. pressures -- as I said, hypothetically -- how would Nicaragua face actions from various countries as a result of those pressures, which could be a blockade from Latin American and European countries, or even worldwide?

[Arce] If the negotiating process fails, it will never be Nicaragua's fault. We will, as we have done in the past, dedicate all our efforts and will do everything in our power so that the negotiations can continue and peace can be achieved in the region. However, I repeat, if the negotiating process fails because of the U.S. policy, we believe that a blockade against Nicaragua or an attack against Nicaragua would not be against Nicaragua alone. It would be a blockade against Latin America, it would be blocking and attacking Latin America.

We believe that this is a moment of great historical significance, not only for Nicaragua but for all of Latin America. The time has come for Latin America to show the world and the international community that it can resolve its own regional problems, that Latin America does not want and has no need for extraregional forces to tell us how to resolve Latin American problems. That is the importance of this moment, and we believe that the Contadora and Support Groups are aware of this. Therefore, we trust that Latin America will persevere with this initiative in order to show that we are mature and do not need to have decisions imposed from the North, as in the past. [end recording]

8 FRG AID WORKERS KIDNAPPED IN ZELAYA DEPARTMENT

Contras Accused

LD180308 Hamburg DPA in German 0201 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Managua, 18 May (DPA) -- Eight Germans who were working on agricultural development projects have been kidnapped by anti-Sandinist rebels in northern Nicaragua. A government spokesman said in Managua on Saturday that another four West German citizens had managed to escape.

The Germans were attacked by around 30 contras and probablay taken to Honduras. The incident took place in Zelaya Department, around 350 KM north of the capital, it was said in Managua. The group of voluntary aid workers arrived in the Central American country only 2 weeks ago. The rebels are supported financially by the United States. A year ago a German was kidnapped by guerrillas in Nicaragua and released a few weeks later in Honduras.

4 Escapees Reported, 1 Casualty

LD180936 Hamburg DPA in German 0345 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Bonn/Managua, 18 May (DPA) -- The Foreign Office in Bonn is making efforts toward the release of the eight German development aid workers abducted by anti-Sandinist rebels in Nicaragua. The Managua government informed the FRG of the abduction, a spokesman told DPA today. According to Managua sources, units of the contra rebels, financially supported by the United States, attacked the village of Jacinto Vaca in the early hours of the morning and abducted 12 Germans who were helping with the work there on the construction of housing.

The 'Informationsburero Nicaragua' (Nicaragua Information Office) in Wuppertal reported further details today. According to these, the contras and prisoners encountered a unit of government soldiers on their retreat. In the exchange of fire that ensued, four Germans managed to escape. One of them, however, was wounded by a shot in the thigh. According to the information, the FRG citizens had been in Nicaragua for 10 days. They were there to help with building houses for Nicaraguan peasants who fled from their homes last year because of the contra attacks. The project at Jacinto Vaca, 350 km southeast of Managua and 35 km northeast of the provincial capital of Nueva Guinea, is one of (?four) housing constuction projects. In June last year biologist Regine Schmemann was kidnapped in Nicaragua by antigovernment Indian rebels. The same thing happened to Ingeborg Konradi, a development aid worker, in August. Mrs Konradi was released a few days later; Mrs Schmemann was held by her captors for 3 weeks.

Escapees Issue Statement

PA182229 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2118 GMT 18 Mat 86

[Text] Managua, 18 May (DPA) -- Arms made in the FRG could be in the hands of the counterrevolutionary groups that 3 days ago kidnapped 11 [as received] FRG collaborators in the eastern region of Nicaragua, according to a report released in Juigalpa, some 130 km from Managua, by 4 of the collaborators who managed to escape. a In their statement they asked the FRG Government to start investigations regarding the FRG arms found in the possession of the counterrevolutionaries of the FDN and also into the release of the eight kidnapped Germans, who are being held by the FDN. They also asked the United States to stop giving military aid to the counterrevolutionaries.

The FRG citizens were kidnapped at the Jacinto Baca Farming Cooperative located in the southeastern part of the country, when some 90 counterrevolutionaries attacked 2 settlements on early Friday morning. The names of the kidnapped Germans are Reinhar Zimmer, Juergen Kuhr, Angelika Goetz, Doris Alterburg, Doninik Dihel, Sigfried Ruetting and Astrid Setelter. The other German collaborators reiterated their decision to continue their work in Nicaragua.

Germans Occupy Managua Embassy

LD190959 Hamburg DPA in German 0924 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Bonn, 19 May (DPA) -- The efforts of the Federal Government to secure the release of eight Germans abducted in Nicaragua are, in view of the Foreign Ministry, being considerably impeded by the occupation of the German Embassy in Managua. A spokesman in Bonn today said that the legation has been occupied since Sunday evening by about 50 German nationals, and thus put out of action. The Foreign Ministry appeals to the occupiers to end the obstructions and quit the embassy building.

There is still no sign that the kidnap victims are alive. However, in earlier cases, it was several days before the abductors made contact, the spokesman said. All opportunities are being used to achieve a speedy release.

FRG Foreign Ministry Mobilizes

LD190829 Hamburg DPA in German 0200 GMT 19 May 86

[Excerpts] Managua/Bonn, 19 May (DPA) -- There was no trace whatsoever of the eight Germans abducted in northern Nicaragua by anti-Sandinist rebels up to early this morning (CEST) [Central European Standard Time]. Four other Federal German citizens, who had managed to escape, reported at a press conference in Juigalpa (Nicaragua) that the weapons of the insurgents were of Federal German origin.

Yesterday, the Federal Government condemned the abduction as an act of force. The Foreign Ministry formed a crisis committee to coordinate efforts to release the federal citizens kidnapped by the anti-Sandinist rebels. As a spokesman announced, the German Embassies in Washington, Nicaragua, and Honduras are involved. There have already been preliminary talks with the insurgents.

The German Development Service (DED) pointed out in Bonn that the kidnap victims are not development helpers sent by the DED. Evidently they are so-called internationalists, active within the framework of foreign solidarity movements. In fact, there are some development helpers sent out by the DED staying in the Central American country. However, they have had strict security conditions imposed upon them after abductions of last year.

BORGE ALLEGES SOMOZIST PLOT AGAINST U.S. ENVOY

PA191247 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1220 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge said yesterday that he has been informed of a terrorist plot against the U.S. ambassador in Managua, adding that the plot was reportedly planned by Somozist mercenaries. Commander Borge said that a reliable source told him that the contras are reportedly planning an attack against U.S. Ambassador Harry Bergold, in an attempt to increase tension between Washington and Managua and to provoke U.S. reprisal measures. Borge, who spoke briefly with journalists in the eastern town of (Yilan), approximately 450 km northeast of Managua, did not give any further details on the possible attack, nor did he state if the plan included Bergold's murder.

However, he stressed that the information was obtained from a good source, which he did not identify. Borge added that he will inform the U.S. Embassy about the alleged attack. There was no immediate reaction from the U.S. Embassy, whose installations are heavily guarded. Commander Tomas Borge Martinez' statement was carried on the Sistema Sandinista de Television Network, without any further explanation being provided.

EPS OFFICER SEEKS ASYLUM AT VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PA170309 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0147 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Caracas, 16 May (EFE) -- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi confirmed today that an EPS officer has sought asylum at the Venezuelan Embassy in Managua. Consalvi said that Maximo Suarez Suarez has sought asylum at the Venezuelan diplomatic mission since last Wednesday, when he entered the premises and requested asylum.

The head of the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry stated that the government will probably issue a statement next week concerning its decision on accepting or rejecting Suarez as a political refugee. Maximo Suarez, 24 years old, was born in Chontales Province, the north-central region of the country, and has joined the other eight Nicaraguan refugees who sought asylum at the embassy more than 1 year ago.

It was unofficially stated that the Nicaraguan officer requested asylum due to problems with the commanders in his force, but this version has not been confirmed or denied by local authorities.

CURIA PROTESTS MEDIA ATTACKS ON ARCHBISHOP

PA160413 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0238 GMT 16 May 86

[Excerpt] Managua, 15 May (ACAN-EFE) -- This capital city's archbishopric curia today stated its "concern" over the "offensive epithets" the official media hurls at Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo's pastoral efforts. Msgr Bismarak Carballo, episcopal vicar of Managua, today requested that the Sandinist newspaper BARRICADA publish the full text of the article written by Cardinal Obando y Bravo, which was recently published in THE WASHINGTON POST. The government newspapers' attacks on the president of the Episcopal Conference and archbishop of Managua have been caused by the contents of the religious leader's article that appeared in the U.S. newspaper, ecclesiastic sources said.

"We are concerned that freedom of expression, which every man is legitimately entitled to, may be made a crime. Most of all, we are concerned that the newspapers you yourselves have used to defend your points of view may be outlawed," Msgr Carballo told the Sandinists. The ecclesiastic official also asked the Sandinist press to publish the latest pastoral letter issued by the Catholic bishops entitled "The Eucharist, Source of Unity and Reconciliation," which was censored by the Nicaraguan Government. The Nicaraguan people can only make a judgment based upon objective information if they know the full text of Cardinal Obando y Bravo's article in THE WASHINGTON POST, Msgr Carballo said.

CASTRO PRESIDES OVER COOPERATIVES MEETING

FL171500 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1407 GMT 17 May 86

[Excerpt] At Havana's Karl Marx Theater, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, party first seretary, is presiding over the second national meeting of agricultural-livestock production cooperatives which ends 18 May.

Over 3,350 delegates are in attendance, including presidents and secretaries from the party, Union of Young Communists grassroot committees, and leaders of the National Association of Small Farmers, agriculture, national bank, and state committees.

The cooperative movement is based on the absolute respect to the peasants wishes. Last year the peasant sector, which sells to the state, contributed with 50 percent of tubers and over 35 percent of vegetables and grains. The 86 cooperatives that are part of the movement are notorious, by their productive results of 100 quintals of tubers and vegetables.

CASTRO ATTENDS RECEPTION HONORING GHANAIAN KING

FL171305 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, party first secretary and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night attended a reception hosted by Ghanaian Ambassador to Cuba Kojo Amoo-Gottfried in honor of the Ghanaian Ashanti King, who is paying an official friendly visit. The reception was held at the Ghanaian ambassador's Havana residence.

MALMIERCA AWARDED BATTLE OF BEIRUT DECORATION

FL161444 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Central Committee member and Minister of Foreign Relations Isidoro Malmierca has been decorated in a solemn ceremony in Havana with the Battle of Beirut Order, which was awarded to him by the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The representative of the front, Bashir Zaki, said that in this manner his organization recognized the solidarity of the Cuban government and people with the struggle of the Palestinian people during the siege of Beirut by the Zionists, and in particular the visit that, under these circumstances, the Cuban foreign minister made to Lebanon.

VILMA ESPIN ADDRESSES WOMEN'S FEDERATION CEREMONY

FL171803 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] In Consolacion del Sur Municipality, Pina del Rio Province, Vilma Espin, Politburo member and president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], has presided over a ceremony honoring FMC members for obtaining the national first place in the tasks set forth by the FMC.

[Begin Recording] What we want is for the comrades to analyze their special

characteristics or their interests. For example, many delegations are requesting more sex education teaching material, or more teaching material for adolescents, or material about early childhood care. These could be subjects of discussion in the delegation. So start thinking about something you would like to discuss. Sometimes the problems of the corner grocery store need to be discussed. Maybe it is poorly managed. Well, discuss it in your delegation, and submit it to the party. [end recording]

POLITBURO MEMBERS MEET WITH DPRK DIPLOMATS

FL161416 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Politburo members Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Jorge Risquet have attended a friendly meeting of the DPRK diplomatic mission in Cuba with leaders, officials, and workers of the Central Committee. During the meeting, documentary films were shown that were made by Korea and Cuba during the visit to the DPRK of the delegation headed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

ALARCON TO ATTEND REGIONAL DEMOCRACY MEETING

FL160310 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0155 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Havana, 15 May (NOTIMEX) -- It was reported today that Cuba will attend the next meeting on Latin American democracy which will be held next month in Strasbourg, France, under the auspices of the European Council. Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon told PRENSA LATINA that Cuba will participate in the 3-5 June conference, which will be attended by more than 100 personalities.

The meeting, called democracy and democratization: a dialogue between Europe and Latin America, will be attended by government leaders from 15 Latin American and European countries of different political backgrounds.

FISHING MINISTER METS PERU'S ALAN GARCIA

PA171956 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] During a meeting in Lima with Peruvian President Alan Garcia, Fishing Industry Minister Jorge Fernandez Cuervo informed him of the results of the work carried out by the delegation he heads, which is currently on an official visit in that capital.

Among other things, the Cuban official referred to Cuba's development in the fishing and health fields, as well as in the production of sugar and its by-products.

Fernandez Cuervo also discussed with Alan Garcia Cuba's cooperation with Peru in those fields. Our country has two fishing boats working in Peru free of charge and has donated a 100-bed hospital for the residents isn El Cuzco, a region recently stricken by an earthquake.

Attends Hospital Dedication

PA182330 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Peruvian Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro on Saturday dedicated the field hospital donated by Cuba to the city of Cuzco, which was recently hit by a strong earthquake.

In his speech, Alva said that Peruvians received from a sister nation this immense gesture of solidarity, which they will never forget, duroong a dramatic and trying time.

For his part, Peruvian Health Minister David Tejada said that this field hospital constitutes a living monument and an example of the international solidarity of the Cuban people.

Cries of support for and gratitude to Cuba were heard during the ceremony to dedicate the field hospital, during which the friendship between the Peruvian and Cuban people was also underscored.

Cuba was represented at the ceremony by Jorge Fernandez Cuervo, minister of fishing industry; Deputy Health Minister Enrique Comendeiro, and other members of the delegation that has been on a working visit in Peru since 11 May.

COMMENTARY ON PRESIDENT DUARTE'S REGIONAL TOUR

PA160438 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 May 86

[By Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte has arrived in Uruguay for a 36-hour visit, but the people's rejection has prevented him from completing part of the activities scheduled for him in advance. Duarte's hosts were forced to put him up at the Carrasco Hotel, far from downtown Montevideo, instead of at the Victoria Plaza Hotel, as had been planned. Thousands of people had rallied in front of the latter to demonstrate against him and then to begin a march along the busy 18 July Avenue. The demonstration, convoked by the Inter-Union Workers Plenum-National Convention of Workers, was backed by the Broad Front coalition. Placards and slogans of the demonstrators portrayed Duarte as the perpetrator of genocide against the Salvadoran people and called him a puppet of the U.S. Government. Duarte arrived in Uruguay from Peru, where he was also labeled undesirable by social and political organizations and the people's sectors.

The United Left coalition, the second most important political force in Peru, issued a communique pointing to Duarte as a U.S. Government agent, criticizing his presence in Lima, and urging the people to reject the visitor. In Bueno Aires, the third stage in Duarte's tour through Latin America, the deputies of the Intransigent Party announced that they would not participate in the tribute to Duarte at the Argentine Congress. The demonstrations of the people's rejection of Duarte, both in Peru and Uruguay, have been interpreted as a serious setback for the Savadoran president, who is desperately trying to allay criticism of his genocidal regime.

LABOR REPRESENTATIVES HOLD ENERGY SAVING MEETING

FL162019 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] The first meeting of the country's labor representatives in response to the urgent need to increase savings and rational use of energy and material resources has been held at Havana's Nico Lopez Refinery.

The meeting began the preliminary discussion at that level to prepare for the second national energy forum in May of 1987. It was presided over by Central Committee members Joel Domenech, president of the National Energy Commission, and Rene Penalver, Central Organization of Cuban Workers second secretary.

REPORTAGE ON 16 MAY ELECTIONS, DISTURBANCES

Blue Ribbon Council Appointed

FL141558 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, President Salvador Jorge Blanco has appointed a blue-ribbon council to supervise Friday's general elections and prevent electoral fraud. A Roman Catholic archbishop will head the nine-member commission appointed by Mr Jorge Blanco 3 days before the May 16 vote to assure free men free elections. Mr Jorge Blanco said the commission will be asked to provide recommendations to improve the voting process and prevent violence.

Former presidents and candidates Joaquin Balaguer of the Reformist Social Christian Party [PRSC] and Juan Bosch of the Liberation Party [PLD] have charged Mr Jorge Blanco's ruling Revolutionary Party of plotting to rig the vote.

About 3 million of the country's 6.2 million people are eligible to cast ballots. Voters will choose a president and vice president, 150 legislators for the senate and house, and 98 mayors.

The election campaign that began March 31 has been characterized by sporadic violence. Five people have been killed, and scores of others have been wounded, including three Balaguer supporters shot Sunday night. Polls taken during the campaign suggest ruling party candidate Jacobo Majluta will lead the vote.

Balaguer Denies Ill Health

FL170336 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 9 May 86, pp 1, 14

[By Tulio Navarrete]

[Excerpt] Joaquin Balaguer, presidential candidate of the Revolutionary Social Christian Party (PRSC), denied last night that he suffers from high blood pressure. Balaguer made this declaration in a document which he paid to have published.

Former President Balaguer said he is clarifying the situation because there have been statements published in the country's prinicipal sources of information saying he suffers "serious ailments like hypertension which could raise serious doubts about his ability to govern if he was elected on 16 May."

In the document, Balaguer "categorically denies" those statements and says "they are deceitful and politically motivated."

Election Starts Smoothly

PA170213 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2125 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 May (DPA) -- Since early this morning thousands of Dominicans have been turning up at voting centers to exercise their right to vote in the general elections underway in the country. At noon the elections were said to be going smoothly and officially; only minor incidents were reported.

At 0400 (local) voters began to stand in line at the voting centers. The elections were officially opened after 0700 and the voting centers will close at 1800. A large turnout is expected during today's elections.

The biggest problem reported has been the one involving the electoral lists. Hundreds of voters have found that their names do not appear in the lists at the voting centers to which they were assigned.

As decreed by President Salvador Jorge Blanco, all radio and television stations throughout the country have been in network with the government-run station since this morning. All radio and televisions will be allowed to broadcast only bulletins and information issued by the Central Electoral Board. This is hindering the flow of information regarding the development of the elections.

The three main presidential candidates and President Salvador Jorge Blanco cast their votes this morning. Jacobo Majluta, candidate for the ruling PRD; Joaquin Balaguer, of the PRSC; and Juan Bosch, of the PLD voted in Santo Domingo. President Jorge Blanco and his wife, Asela Mero de Blanco, voted in Santiago de los Caballeros.

The PRSC's press office reported on alleged incidents in which members of the ruling PRD forced their way into some voting centers, broke into the ballot boxes, and replaced the ballots. The press office also alleged that during another incident, two people were shot and wounded in another sector of the capital city. Independent sources were unable to confirm these reports.

Meanwhile, Jocobo Majluta's press office reported that "all was going well," and presidential candidate Joaquin Balaguer himself, after casting his vote, said that the process was going "more or less normally."

In the afternoon hours it was learned that two people riding a motorcycle hurled a bomb or a teargas cannister into a school building. The incident caused some panic among those at the school. The PRSC's press office reported that a young man was injured during this incident, however, this was not confirmed. The first official results will be learned after 2200 (local).

Two Killed at Polls

PY162158 Paris AFP in Spanish 2117 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 May (AFP) -- Two people were shot dead by a soldier during an incident this afternoon at a voting station in Paraiso, near Barahona, 180 km south of Santo Domingo. Carlos Julio Medina, 46, of the PRD, and Mariano Nolasco, 29, of the PRSC, were shot after an argument with one of the soldiers guarding the voting station where the two men were serving as delegates of their respective parties.

According to a report from a correspondent in Barahona, the soldier reacted after he was pushed by the two men. He added that three other people were wounded but that voting continued normally after this tragic incident.

Death Toll Rises to Three

PY162254 Paris AFP in Spanish 2213 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 May (AFP) -- A man was killed in a shantytown of the Dominican capital 1 and 1/2 hours before the polls closed in the general elections today in the Dominican Republic, raising today's death toll to three. According to his relatives, Bolivar Reyes, 22, was killed by a member of the PRSC, an oppositon party. The assailant, a presumed member of a group that tried to steal a ballot box from Martin de Porres School in the Guachupita neighborhood, shot Reyes with a shotgun. According to his relatives Reyes, who belongs to the ruling PRD, was shot when he confronted the group. Newsmen covering the incident reported that the military election police immediately surrounded the killer, preventing him from being lynched by the people.

Majluta Claims Victory

PY171709 Paris AFP in Spanish 1652 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 May (AFP) -- In a brief statement to newsmen, Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) candidate Jocobo Majluta stated at noon today that he had won the election. Majluta added that owing to an agreement existing among all candidates he could not elaborate on his victory.

In a statement released to the press, the PRD also states that, in accordance with its figures, it obtained 40.1 percent of the votes, while the PRSC obtained 38.6 percent. According to observers, the PRD figures do not agree with partial figures released by the Central Electoral Board, which gives a 18-percent lead to PRSC candidate Joaquin Balaguer.

Balaguer to Accept 'Clean' Results

PA171501 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1416 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 May (EFE) -- The presidential candidate of the Dominican PRSC, Joaquin Balaguer, has announced that he will accept the results at the polls, although they may be adverse to him, so long as Friday's election are clean. Balaguer, who is supported in the elections by the Democratic Quisqueyan Party (PQD) and the National Party of Civilian Veterans [Partido Nacional de Veteranos Civiles -- PNVC], said he is ready to accept the will of the people, freely expressed at the polls, adding that he was satisfied with the development of the elections on Friday.

"If the elections are clean, as we hope they are, as everything indicates they will be, we will accept the ruling of the people, we will bow humbly to the will of the people," the veteran politician, 78 years old, who was three-time president of the Dominican Republic from 1966 to 1978, stated.

For his part, Jocobo Majluta Azar, 52, presidential candidate of the ruling PRD, said he trusts that the election results will favor him and reiterated that he will form a government of national unity if he wins. The third candidate -- the returns have made him more distant from first place -- Juan Bosch Gavino, 76, of the PLD, abstained from making any comment.

Balaguer Maintains Narrow Lead

PA181406 Paris AFP in Spanish 1333 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 May (AFP) -- Former President Joaquin Balaguer, 78, is clearly ahead in the results of the Dominican general elections of last Friday compared to Jacobo Majluta, the official candidate, according to Bulletin No 23 released at 0730 local time (1130 GMT) by the Central Electoral Board today. After a count of 2,032,155 Votes of an electoral registry of 3,039,347 voters, the votes are distributed among the three most important candidates -- Balaguer of the PRSC, Majluta of the PRD, and former President Juan Bosch, of the PLD -- as follows:

Balaguer (PRSC and allies)	700,968	41.50 percent
Majluta (PRD and allies)	763,956	39.63 percent
Bosch (PLD)	351,749	18.25 percent

One of the most important results is that of the null voters (76,556) and challenged votes (26,516), the latter which can determine the end result in view of the narrow margin between the first and second place candidates.

Thus far Balaguer has not proclaimed himself the winner, because there is a pact not to do so before the Central Electoral Board concludes the vote count.

Vote Count Suspended 18 May

PA182156 Paris AFP in Spanish 2052 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 May (AFP) -- The Central Electoral Council announced this afternoon that the vote counting of the Dominican general elections held on Friday was suspended today and will be resumed tomorrow, Monday, at 0800 local time (1200 GMT). Council President Caonabo Fernandez Naranjo signed the announcement carried over a radio and television network naintained since midnight on Thursday, but did not explain the reasons for the suspension.

It was also announced that the Commission of Electoral Advisers, headed by Msgr Nicolas Lopez Rodriquez, the archbishop of Santo Domingo, will address the country over radio and television network in the next few hours.

The Council issued its last information bulletin, no 23, this morning at 0730 local time which showed former President Joaquin Balaguer of the PRSC (conservative) leading the official candidate Jacobo Majluta of the PRD (social democratic) by 1.87 percent with 80 percent of the votes counted and 90 percent of the voting precincts covered. Around noon, the council president said that the remining results would be included in a final bulletin that would be revealed around mid-afternoon, but then an official suspension was announced later.

BAHAMAS

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL DEFENDS CUBAN TALKS

FL162310 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 10 May 86, p 1

[By Anthony Forbes]

[Text] Former Foreign Affairs Parliamentary Secretary James Moultrie told PLP [Progressive Liberal Party] rally Thursday there was nothing wrong with the Bahamas talking with Cuba. He said the Bahamas had never broken ties with its communist neighbour.

Mr Moultrie, who served as a member of the Bahamas mission to the United Nations before entering politics, was replying to the criticism of FNM [Free National Movement] Action Group Chairman George Wilson, who condemned what he called government's "cosying" up the the Cubans.

Mr Moultrie, parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Educaton, said Mr Wilson was talking on a subject that he knew nothing about. "He wants to talks about foreign affairs and why we are talking to Cuba," Mr Moultrie told over 1,000 supporters at the first island-wide PLP rally at Christie Park. "Well this is crazy, he's got to be," he said. "You've got a neighbour which is closer to you than America is and you're not going to talk. You going to fight? What you're going to fight him with? You'd better talk." "And we've always been talking to the Cubans anyhow. I don't know why he just woke up and found that out. We never broke ties with Cuba and ain't nothing wrong with talking with Cuba," the rock sound MP said.

"As the prime minister said, in a little while President (Ronald) Reagan is going to be talking with (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev so what's wrong with Mr Maynard talking with the Cuban foreign minister?" Mr Moultrie asked. "You don't have to agree with what he said, but you've got to talk," Mr Moultrie told the rally. Foreign Minister Clement Maynard held talks with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli in Nassau in March on matters of "mutual concern."

The talks in Nassau were a follow-up to discussions held in Cuba last August between the Bahamian and Cuban foreign ministers.

Thursday Cuba's ambassador to the Bahamas, Dr Severino Mansur Jorge presented his credentials to Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash at Government House.

In early April, Mr Wilson expressed convern over the "apparent revived friendliness and cordiality" between the Bahamas and Cuban Governments and pleged to oppose any attempt to establish a Cuban embassy in Nassau. He said the action group would oppose any closer ties with Cuba until it had regularized its relations with the United States and other democracies in the Caribbean and the world.

Although Mr Maynard addressed last night's rally, he did not refer to the talks between the Bahamas and Cuba, which the action group claimed led to a "secret agenda" between the two countries.

PLP chairman senator Sean McWeeney, who was present at Thursday's rally but did not speak, had said on a previous occasion that there was nothing wrong with the Bahamas talking to Cuba.

FNM CEREMONY MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF CUBAN ATTACK

FL162246 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 10 May 86, pp 1, 14

[Excerpts] Is the Bahamas to be Cuba's next surrogate government, asked former U.S. ambassador to Cuba Earl Smith who flew to Nassau today as the Cuban ambassador to the Bahamas flew out. Mr. Smith -- the ambassador to Cuba in the last days of Fulgencio Batista and the take over of Fidel Castro -- took part in the sixth anniversary service for four Bahamian marines killed when a Cuban MIG sank HMBS Flamingo in Bahamain waters on May 10, 1980. The FNM [Free National Movement] action group, which planned the services -- at Prince George dock and the cenotaph -- had invited Mr. Smith to attend.

Cuban ambassador to the Bahamas, Severino Mansur Jorge, who presented his credentials to Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash Thursday, left for Cuba with his wife early this morning. Mr Mansur, a member of Cuba's Communist Party, was also a member of Castro's underground, which helped overthrow the Batista regime.

The action group had announced this week that after the downtown ceremonies, its members would demonstrate outside the Royal Bahamian Hotel, where the Cuban ambassador was occupying a well guarded one-bedroom garden villa. Ambassador Mansur had been a guest at the Royal Bahamian since May 1, he had told THE TRIBUNE that he would be available for an interview on Monday, but last night, under police escort, he and his wife checked out of the hotel. However they returned to the hotel later that night. It is understood the weather was too bad for flying last night. However, at 7:30 this morning the Mansurs once again left the hotel. It is reported that they left the Bahamas about 8 am.

While in Nassau Mr Mansur called on Deputy Prime Minister Clement Maynard at the Foreign Ministry and Monday evening he and his wife dined with Prime Minister Pindling and his family, Mr and Mrs Maynard, and the Jamaican ambassador to the Bahamas, Mr Keith Johnson, and his family.

At this morning's memorial service Action Group Chairman George Wilson read a passage of scripture while Shirlea MP Pierre Dupuch made brief remarks, Mr Sturrup then threw a pink wreath with green trimmings into the sea.

Mr Dupuch said that several days ago the Government of the Bahamas was talking to the ambassador of Cuba. "We want to let the Cuban Government know that they are really not welcome in the Bahamas because our people are a free and democratic people and the Cuban Government is a communist government," he said.

He said the Cubans were not appreciated in Bahamian waters and that they could make no "retribution" for the lives of the four Bahamian marines -- Able Seaman Sturrup, Seamen Austin Rudolph Smith and Edward Williams, and Gunner David Tucker -- lost at sea. "I want all Bahamians to know that we are free today, we are free tomorrow and God knows we will be free forever if we keep our courage high and we do not let the Cubans, as they did in Grenada, come to our shores," he said.

Rev. McPhee said the four marines served their country with pride, dignity and honour and died with the same three characteristics. Following the dockside service, the group proceeded to the cenotaph in the garden of rememberance and were met by former US ambassador, who laid a wreath just beneath a plaque bearing the names of the four marines which was unveiled during the rememberance day services in 1981.

DOMINICA

BOATS, IMMIGRANTS SEIZED BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES

FL162112 Bridgetown CANA in English 2101 GMT May 86

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 16, CANA -- Authorities here are trying to find out what led to the deportation of 18 Dominicans from the neighbouring French depency of Maru Galantt Coff Guadeloupe), and the seizure of four Dominican boats by French Authorities, earlier this week. Police today confirmed that the Dominicans were expelled on Tuesday and the External Affairs Ministry said it had received complaints concerning the seizure of two boats and the detention of two others, but neither source, nor the local French coinsular agency had any official word on the latest French action.

A top External Affairs Ministry offical said it had responded to the boat-owners complaints but had not yet received a response from the mayor of Marie Glante to know the circumstances surrounding the reports.

But Butler's office reported that it had been notified of the expulsion of almost 150 illegal Dominican immigrants from Guadeloupe and Marie Glante over the last six months, including 84 in January this year. Another 25 were expelled from Martinique around the same time.

Unofficial sources said the latest action could have been prompted by the robbery of a major jewelry store in Marie Galante which French authorities allegedly connected with Dominican nations. Difficulties in the operation of visa requirements for Dominicans to travel to the neighbouring French islands have given rise to frequent talks between France and Dominica and Butler said moves were afoot to have further discussions with the French ambassador.

HAITI

100 KILLED IN ANTI-VOODOO CAMPAIGNS SINCE FEBRUARY

FL161342 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Officials in Haiti acknowledge as many as 100 people may have been killed in anti-voodoo campaigns since the ouster of former President Jean-Claude Duvalier 3 months ago. Most of the victims were voodoo priests and priestesses and were believed to have been associated with the secret police of the former Duvalier regime.

JAMAICA

MANLEY CHALLENGES SEAGA TO CALL ELECTIONS

FL161553 Bridgetown CANA in English 1529 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 16, CANA -- Opposition People's National Party (PNP) leader Michael Manley last night challenged Prime Minister Edward Seaga to call the general elections, which Jamaicans have speculated could be in the offing since this month's presentation of government's 1986 budget that included price reductions on basic foods, increased capital spending and lower interest rates. Seaga is to call twice-postponed municipal elections by the end of June, but constitutionally is not bound to hold a national elections until the end of 1988.

However, analysts here have suggested that despite his rejection of the idea, Seaga, after presiding over three years of austerity and sunken popularity, might attempt to translate any euphoria over the expansionary budget to general election votes. But during a scathing attack on the budget, which he branded an insulting bribe which could not hold together, Manley welcomed the thought of a general election. Let the people decide who is telling the truth, Manley declared at a PNP people's forum -- the sort of mock parliament they have resorted to since boycotting the 1980 elections. Let the voice of the people be heard, call not the local government election call the general elections now, he declared.

Seaga's reflationary package did not receive the support of a team from Jamaica's major aid backers -- the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) -- whom Seaga had invited to review the island's economy. They instead suggested continued austerity, including further devaluations in the Jamaican dollar, more cuts in government spending and additional public sector job losses.

The prime minister, since the surfacing of the disagreement, has downplayed the importance of the team, saying that Jamaica had a contingency plan in the event it was forced by the institutions to go through with the belt-tightening. Talks are expected to begin with the IMF by month end on this years programme under a 22-month facility that is now halfway through.

Manleya, who in 1980 broke with the IMF when they could not agree on a programme, argued that against the background of the present disagreement Seaga's budget was almost certain to fall apart. The prime minister would be forced to make changes mid-stream as the government had done in the past three years, he said. He pointed out that in the J5.8 billion dollar budget, major creditors, such as the World Bank and USAID, were expected to provide J940 million out ot a total projected loan inflows of J1,760 million dollars (1J doll; 18 cents U.S.). However, last fiscal year, when relations with the major creditors were better, only J500 million dollars was actually received from an expected 1,250 million dollars, Manley said.

This budget is a lie, the budget is a deception, the budget is a piece of election bribery...(which) cannot stand examination in the light of day, he declared. Manley claimed that Seaga's economic strategies had failed on all counts.

In five years since 1981, depite annual boasts of economic recovery, the country had managed only to stand still with average annual economic growth of 0.3 percent despite a massive inflow of economic assistance from the United States which we appreciate. As a consequence of the policies of deregulation and devaluation, inflation had galloped since 1983, and over the period the country had run an annual trade deficit of more than 550 million dollars (U.S.). Between 1981-85, the trade deficit totalled U.S. 2,750 million dollars. Although the categorisation of employment had been changed to register persons actively seeking jobs at the time of the survey, unemployment was 26 per cent. Under the old format it would be over 30 per cent, Manley said. The devaluation and deregulation strategies had forced many companies into bankruptcy, and these coupled with high interest rates had stymied production, he argued.

In human terms, he said the suffering and sacrifice had been great, and this was borne out by government statistics. He noted that per capita GDP at constant prices had fallen four per cent between 1980 and 1985, while compensation for employees as a percentage of the GDP had fallen from 51 per cent in 1980 to 48 per cent in 1984.

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

EC COMMISSION ARRIVES FOR ECONOMIC TALKS

FL141912 Bridgetown CANA In English 1813 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, May 14, CANA -- A four-member team from the commission of the European Community (EC) arrived in Trinidad today for three days of concluding talks on the allocation of development funds under the third Lome Convention. The team, led by Michel Hauswirth, a deputy director general, was meeting this afternoon with Industry Minister Senator Wendell Mottley. Tomorrow members will hold talks with officials of the finance and planning ministry.

On Friday, the team will sign an agreement on Trinidad and Tobago's national indicative programme which agrees on how the 15 million ECU's [European Community Units] (just over 50 million TT dollars) this country will receive under Lome Three will be allocated. The team will also call on Prime Minister George Chambers, and External Affairs Minister Errol Mahabir.

Lome is a trade and aid agreement between the EC and 66 developing nations in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific [ACP].

Negotiations Begin

FL152256 Bridgetown CANA in English 1926 GMT 15 May 86

[Excerpts] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, May 15, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago today began final discussions with officials from the European Economic Community (EEC) for the oil-rich states national development programme over the next five years under allocations made by the Lome III convention.

The package consists of a nine million ECU grant and a six million ECU special 40-year loan with ten years grace and one per cent interest.

We think that certainly, with difficulties for oil, the Trinidad economy is in a difficult moment but what is very important to underline is that the general development of Trinidad and Tobago is certainly one of the higher amounts of other ACP countries, head of the EEC mission Michel Hauswirth said at the beginning of the meeting this morning.

And what is very important to ensure is the conservation of this development and to ensure that, even with the difficulty it is possible to maintain as well as possible, the standard of life of the population.

Hauswirth said that the EEC has given priority to a number of areas including agriculture, tourism, training of human resources and to a limited number of projects.

Trinidad and Tobago, which signed and ratified its agreement to Lome III last December, seems to be placing agricultural development high on its programme under Lome III with four of the six-member team meeting today being representatives of the local agriculture ministry and agricultural research departments.

Trinidad and Tobago will today present proposals government consider appropriate to its development policies and strategies, its priority development objectives at national level, and sector-specific policy objectives.